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Thursday, October 23, 2014

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART
SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 24

Thursday, October 23, 2014

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VANCOUVER metro®

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

The victim, Nathan Cirillo, 24

The hero, Kevin Vickers, 58

The alleged gunman, Michael Zehaf-Bibeau

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Terror hits home

'Canada will never be intimidated,' says Prime Minister Harper in televised address to nation after killing at War Memorial and shootout at Parliament

A police officer runs with his weapon drawn on Wednesday in Ottawa. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Labour dispute

Vince Ready assembles IKEA Richmond deal

The man who solved the B.C. teachers' strike has brought an end to IKEA Richmond's long-standing labour dispute.

IKEA Canada announced Wednesday that the company has struck a 10-year agreement with members of Teamsters' Union Local 213 with the help of expert mediator Vince Ready.

More than 350 employees of the furniture store's Richmond location (just one of two unionized IKEAs in the country) have been picketing for the last 17 months after IKEA proposed to change the pay schedule and increase the number of hours an employee would have to work in order to get benefits that include coverage for their families.

The deal, reached through binding recommendations made by Ready, will see the store "providing wages and benefits that exceed industry standards for all its employees," according to a statement released by IKEA Canada.

The store will remain open on reduced hours until it returns to full operations in mid-December.

Ready first tried to facilitate a resolution to the dispute in September, shortly after helping to broker a deal between government and the B.C. Teachers Federation to end the teachers' strike.

But little progress was made until both sides agreed to give Ready binding recommendation powers earlier this week.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Grade 5 children from Vancouver's St. Francis Xavier School wait on the B.C. legislature steps in Victoria on Wednesday. The children were turned away from their planned visit following the shooting incidents on Parliament Hill in Ottawa. DIRK MEISSNER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

B.C. legislature warned about security concerns

Safety. Ottawa told legislature officials 'there may be a problem'

The clerk of British Columbia's legislature says some provincial politicians were warned this week about "heightened" security concerns in Ottawa in the days leading up to Wednesday's shootings on Parliament Hill and at the National War Memorial.

Craig James declined to offer specifics about the information he and the legislature's sergeant-at-arms received or where it came from. He said there was nothing to indicate B.C.'s legislature was at risk.

"We are aware, and have been aware, of a heightened concern from entities in Ottawa," James told reporters in Victoria.

"We received information that there may be a problem."

James said those concerns had existed for "at least a few days." Some members of the legislature were made aware of them, he said.

Premier Christy Clark said she won't comment on the security tip received at the legislature, but she supports a security review even though she feels safe at the buildings.

"I never talk about my security issues or the security issues around the legislature," she said. "I don't think it's good practice. I don't think it helps keep anybody who works in these buildings safer."

Clark said she wants to achieve a security balance at the legislature, one that is safe and welcoming to the public. She said once the buildings and grounds start to look like an armed camp, the people who want to create fear and mayhem win.

"We don't want the legislature fenced in and shut off," she said. "If we cut off our democratic institutions for the people, it means the people who practise terror have won a victory."

The sergeant-at-arms, Gary Lenz, said security officials at legislatures across the country routinely share information. He declined to go into detail about any such information that was shared this week.

A reservist who was stationed as an honour guard at the National War Memorial was fatally wounded Wednesday. An assailant was shot dead in Parliament's Centre Block, where a security guard was also believed to be wounded.

The capital was placed under lockdown amid fears there could be multiple shooters.

The shooting also prompted increased security measures at legislatures, military bases and other sites across the country.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Grammy Award-winning rapper Macklemore, right, and his producer, Ryan Lewis, take to the stage at We Day on Wednesday. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

Award-winning Canadian rap artist and Free the Children ambassador Kardinal Offishall opens up We Day on Wednesday. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

UNICEF goodwill ambassador Selena Gomez speaks at We Day on Wednesday. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

Jennifer Lopez, Macklemore dazzle students at We Day

Rogers Arena. 20,000 youth turned out for annual event, say organizers

Rogers Arena rocked with singing, dancing and cheering Wednesday as thousands of youth took part in Vancouver's We Day, a youth-empowerment event organized by international charity Free the Children.

Jennifer Lopez made a surprise appearance, performing a medley of her greatest hits alongside a star-studded roster of speakers and performers, from actor Orlando Bloom to actress, singer and UNICEF goodwill ambassador Selena Gomez, to Grammy Award-winning hip-hop artists Macklemore and Ryan Lewis.

Singer-songwriter Shawn Mendes, rapper Kardinal Offishall, singer Victoria Duffield and pop-rockers Marianas Trench were among the Canadian artists at the event.

According to organizers, 20,000 students from over 800 schools across British Columbia took part in the event, a stadium-sized pep rally and concert that aims to motivate youth to become involved in social change. Rather than buy tickets, the students earned their way to the event by volunteering and committing to local and global causes of their choosing.

For Macklemore, taking part in We Day is a chance to inspire youth to give back.

"I think naturally as a kid, as an adult, as a human being, you're so focused on yourself," he told Metro. "(But) to get outside of yourself and help others feels amazing. You watch the impact that it has, you get outside of your own selfish tendencies, and that's why we're here."

The hip-hop sensation from Seattle was a fan favourite at We Day, especially for Burnaby South Secondary School student Robyn Sahota, who spent the summer in El Trapiche, Nicaragua, where she helped construct a community playground.

"Seeing a developing country and really seeing the impact you have from raising that $20 to placing that brick, that really impacted me and really inspired me," she said.

This year, she said she is planning on hosting a silent auction to raise $10,000 to build a school in India.

Sahota's motivation to volunteer is just one example of how We Day is successfully empowering youth to get involved in social causes, according to Free the Children co-founder Craig Kielburger.

When Kielburger co-founded Free the Children in 1995 with brother Marc, he said youth were the least likely demographic to volunteer in Canada.

But today, he said statistics show that group is now the most likely to volunteer.

"I do think there has been a generational shift," he said. "When you look at millennials to even the generation that has followed that generation ... you see young people who are more aware and more informed." THANDI FLETCHER/METRO

Multi-platinum award-winning singer Jennifer Lopez makes a surprise appearance at We Day at Rogers Arena on Wednesday. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

'We have the opportunity to make a difference'

Actor Orlando Bloom on stage at We Day on Wednesday. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

For Orlando Bloom, falling through the window of a three-storey building and breaking his back was the moment that sparked his journey to self-empowerment.

The Hollywood actor and UNICEF ambassador spoke about the life-changing moment to 20,000 children and teens taking part in Vancouver's We Day event at Rogers Arena on Wednesday.

At 19, Bloom said he thought he was invincible — that he could do anything without repercussions.

But as he lay in a hospital bed, unable to move as doctors told him he may never walk again, Bloom said he knew he needed to make changes.

"I realized that I've been racing through my life, always focused on the next thing, never appreciating what was right in front of me," he said. "So I decided that hospital bed, it wasn't going to be my destiny."

Twelve days later, after six bolts and two metal plates were placed in his spine, Bloom said he walked out of the hospital on crutches.

The experience, Bloom said, taught him an important life lesson that he said took him "far too long to realize."

"We have to make good use of the time we have. We have to wake up every day knowing that it's not just an ordinary day. We have to take the moment. We have to seize each day. We have the opportunity to make a difference."

For Bloom, taking part in We Day is a chance to shine a light on global issues. He pointed to the dire problem of children in the Zaatari refugee camp in Jordan, which he saw first-hand during a visit to the Syrian border earlier this year.

"When you think about We Day, it's 20,000 kids who are all doing things that the kids in the Zaatari refugee camps would only dream of," he said. "But for me, it's the future. It's hope. It's the possibility of a bright future." THANDI FLETCHER/METRO

First debate sees Vision, NPA spar over Broadway subway

Gloves off. No clear winner emerges as Vancouverites get first taste of candidates' debating dexterity

EMILY JACKSON
emily.jackson@metronews.ca

Vancouver's mayor and his top rival clashed over who could actually convince the province to fund a Broadway subway in a feisty exchange on Wednesday during the city's first mayoral debate of the election campaign.

Vision Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson painted himself as the best man to land the $2-billion project, an underground line from VCC-Clark to Arbutus because of his advocacy over his past two terms. However, Non-Partisan Association candidate Kirk LaPointe accused him of getting nothing done in the past six years and bungling relationships with the higher levels of government that need to open their cheque books.

The exchange was in front of about 300 people at a sold-out event hosted at Langara College between Robertson, LaPointe, Coalition of Progressive Electors candidate Meena Wong and independent candidates Bob Kasting and Colin Shandler.

"There's a referendum this spring. Do you want a mayor that has been advocating vigorously for six years to invest in transit in this region?" Robertson asked the crowd, receiving loud applause and hoots and hollers.

LaPointe was quick to hit back, accusing the mayor of misleading people by suggesting the subway will go all the way to UBC. (The goal is to get it there eventually, but in the regional mayors' council 10-year plan it will end at Arbutus.)

"The question is do you want a cheerleader or a leader," LaPointe asked, getting enthusiastic cheers of his own.

In a separate exchange, Wong said COPE does not support spending that much money on a subway and instead touted her plan to get $30 monthly bus passes for every Vancouverite. (That would entail every adult buying a pass every month for the math to work, but it's not clear how Wong will make that happen.)

No candidate emerged as the clear victor in the first major mayoral debate this election season, but Vancouverites finally got a taste of how the candidates weigh up in the contest for the mayor's office, with less than a month left before the Nov. 15 election.

Robertson was determined to stay on track with his oft-repeated messages about attracting technology jobs and standing up against the Kinder Morgan pipeline expansion.

Despite jabs from the NPA and COPE about his "broken promise," Robertson didn't even veer from his message about ending street homelessness by 2015, saying it's a "bold goal" and that the city must provide leadership on the problem.

LaPointe used his time delivering harsh criticisms of Vision, whereas Wong painted herself as the voice of the people and noted COPE doesn't take money from developers.

Lawyer Kasting delivered the quickest jabs with zingers that had the audience laughing. He criticized the city's rapid development of towers and Vision and NPA campaign promises of free parking and swimming lessons. He suggested using city-owned land to build rental housing and co-ops.

Restaurant owner Shandler also won over the crowd with comments about his regular citizen appeal and admissions that he does not know much about transit plans. Instead, he said he is trustworthy and would slow down development.

Vision Vancouver Mayor Gregor Robertson and NPA mayoral candidate Kirk LaPointe spar at the first mayoral debate at Langara College on Wednesday. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

The mayor asks ...

"Do you want a mayor that has been advocating vigorously for six years to invest in transit in this region?" Mayor Gregor Robertson

His top challenger says ...

"The question is do you want a cheerleader or a leader?"

Candidate Kirk LaPointe

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Province's LNG promises didn't hold their weight in water: Economist

Disappointing.
Think-tank slams liquefied natural gas tax framework, says it 'feels like we've been played'

MATT KIELTYKA
matt.kieltyka@metronews.ca

Reporters and camera operators are reflected in a puddle on Tuesday while walking past a storage tank during a tour of FortisBC's existing Tilbury LNG facility before the groundbreaking for an expansion project in Delta. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

British Columbians stand to gain little from the liquefied natural gas industry in the face of broken election promises, according to the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives.

The think-tank's senior economist, Marc Lee, says residents should be disappointed after the provincial government unveiled the long-awaited LNG tax framework on Tuesday, slashing expected returns in half in the process.

"It feels like we've been played," said Lee. "The government kind of painted themselves into a corner and made all these promises. But when push comes to shove, we may not get much out of it."

On Tuesday, Finance Minister Mike de Jong admitted the LNG "market has changed" while slashing the LNG tax rate to a preliminary 3.5 per cent, from the originally proposed seven per cent.

Premier Christy Clark said during her successful election campaign that the industry would create 100,000 jobs and generate a trillion dollars in economic opportunity.

Royalties and tax revenues from the industry would create a Prosperity Fund that would wipe out the province's debt and help cut sales taxes, Clark vowed.

But on Tuesday, de Jong admitted that promise could already be up to 15 years behind schedule.

Government documents announcing the tax on Tuesday made no mention of the Prosperity Fund.

"It's just not going to happen," said Lee. "It feels like the province caved to industry demands."

While the final rate is certainly more attractive to proponents, Jennifer Winter, associate director of energy and environmental policy at the University of Calgary's School of Public Policy, said it doesn't guarantee any of the 18 potential projects are now feasible.

"B.C. is still relatively high cost and there are many challenges associated with building these facilities," said Winter. "It's possible some of the projects that weren't feasible at seven per cent could now be at 3.5 (per cent), but it also depends whether or not prices stay where they are or go up. If gas prices go down, it could be that it's just not going to work out."

Even with the lowered tax rate and estimated returns, Lee and Winter believe the government's goal of five LNG facilities is optimistic.

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Gusts up to 116km/h. Windstorm knocks out power to 80,000 in B.C.

A fierce windstorm that rocked the south coast of British Columbia Tuesday night knocked out power to 80,000 homes, according to BC Hydro.

Crews were still working on restoring power to up to 20,000 customers around noon on Wednesday after heavy gusts throughout the night blew trees and branches onto power lines.

According to Environment Canada, peak winds occurred between midnight and 2 a.m. on Tuesday.

The highest wind speeds were recorded on Saturna Island, where gusts reached 116 kilometres per hour.

Vancouver International Airport measured winds up to 74 km/h.

BC Hydro spokesperson Mora Scott said Surrey, Langley and Vancouver Island were most affected by the storm. In Surrey alone, 38,000 customers were left without power.

Scott said crews were working hard to restore power to most residents by Wednesday afternoon. MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

A tree in Yaletown was snapped in half during Tuesday night's windstorm. THANDI FLETCHER/METRO

3 girls, 1 boy. Victoria woman has quadruplets

It took only about four minutes for a family in Victoria to triple in size.

Mark Brown says his wife Alicia gave birth to quadruplets Riley, Emma, Alyssa and Liam between 7:41 a.m. and 7:45 a.m. at Victoria General Hospital on Tuesday.

He says the three girls and one boy were born at 29 weeks and are doing well but they will spend the next eight weeks in the neonatal intensive care unit.

Health authority spokeswoman Sarah Plank says the babies are fraternal and identical twins and that the birth of quadruplets is a fairly rare event at the hospital.

Victoria-area resident Lisa Sorensen and her husband Tim became parents to four boys at the same hospital in December 2008. THE CANADIAN PRESS

South Vancouver

Police respond to unconfirmed report of man with rifle

Vancouver police responded to an unconfirmed report of a man with a rifle in South Vancouver Wednesday morning, but said that no such man was found and the area was safe.

The VPD received reports of a man with a rifle in the area of Granville Street and 71st Avenue shortly after 9 a.m. on Wednesday, said Const. Brian Montague.

"Police are in the area conducting an area search, and no one with a gun has been located. There is no indication there is a safety concern for those in the area," VPD said in a release. CAM TUCKER/METRO

Starting at $300

Whistler auctions off old gondolas

If you've ever wanted your very own gondola, now is your chance.

Whistler Blackcomb is holding an online auction for 11 of its old gondola cabins starting at $300 each.

The 1,250-pound gondolas are about eight feet tall and six feet wide with the hanger and the peg on the bottom removed.

While the cabins would certainly be a hit at any college party, prospective buyers should note the gondolas cannot be transported in a standard pickup truck.

Delivery within Whistler is included in the final bid price, but if you live elsewhere additional fees apply.

The auction closes Nov. 3 at 10 p.m. Pacific Time. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Canadian skipper Eric Holden stands for a photograph at the Royal Vancouver Yacht Club on Wednesday. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canuck skipper returns a winner

Round the World Yacht Race. Crew was made up entirely of amateurs

Quoted

"For our team, patience and remaining calm were very important. It's kind of the way I acted and my crew would follow." Eric Holden, skipper

Eric Holden got to stoke two of his passions while crisscrossing the globe.

A meteorologist with Canada's Olympic sailing team, the 34-year-old skipper is back home for the first time in two years after winning the gruelling Clipper Round the World Yacht Race in July — a 64,000-kilometre trek that took almost 11 months to complete.

"One of the big perks of this race was experiencing the weather in those different places," Holden said Wednesday. "The southern ocean from South Africa to Australia in particular is the Holy Grail, the Mt. Everest of sailing. You get the biggest winds and seas. There's not that many races that go there. That was a big reward for me.

"We had three storms that hit hurricane-force winds and the seas were quite monstrous ... it was a very impressive show of nature."

What might be even more remarkable is that Holden — the first Canadian to win the race — and the 11 other professional skippers who took part sailed with crews made up entirely of amateurs.

The neophytes were vetted and received about four weeks of training in the English Channel before being divided up and assigned to a ship. Holden's crew ranged in age from 21 to 74, including five other Canadians.

"For me that was probably the most rewarding part of the whole experience — seeing the development from pretty much zero sailing knowledge to being safe, competent sailors that I have full respect for," said Holden. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Surrey wants to join coal fight

The Fraser Surrey Docks EMILY JACKSON/METRO FILE

The City of Surrey wants to join environmental groups in their legal fight against a planned coal export facility in the city.

The Fraser Surrey Docks facility, which was approved by Port Metro Vancouver earlier this year, will enable the annual shipment of 4 million tonnes of U.S. thermal coal to Asia.

Ecojustice filed a Federal Court application for a judicial review of the project, alleging the port was biased in its decision and did not consider the climate impacts of shipping coal that will eventually be burned for energy.

Surrey will apply to the legal challenge as an intervener in order to advocate for proper consideration of environmental, health and safety risks, according to a staff report approved by council.

New Westminster has also applied to be an intervener. It is worried about the potential health effects of coal dust from the daily train that will carry the commodity from the U.S. to the facility. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Bones returned

Dinosaur fossil mystery solved using old map

A 50-year-old mystery involving poachers and missing dinosaur bones has been solved by an international team of paleontologists, including one from the University of Alberta.

A pair of forelimbs belonging to the Deinocheirus was discovered in Mongolia in 1965. But the skeleton and the quarry's location were lost until paleontologists found them in 2009 using a hand-drawn map — the only clue they had. Phil Currie from the University of Alberta says the area had been stripped by fossil poachers but the parts were found with a fossil dealer in Europe and finally returned to Mongolia. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Controversial law

Anti-spam campaign targets software makers

Canada's controversial anti-spam law has already forced businesses to change how they communicate with consumers by email.

Early next year, the law will also start targeting software makers. Starting on Jan. 15, companies will have to get consent before installing a program on a person's computer if the software has the ability to covertly send electronic messages or has other functionality outlined in the legislation.

While the law has been framed as an attack on the creators of malware and spyware, it also affects legitimate software companies, which face fines of up to $10 million for non-compliance. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Battle with Rogers

Bell wants to ring in hockey app changes

Two of Canada's largest sports broadcasters are scrambling to score points with hockey fans through a regulatory battle over whether certain NHL game content can be offered exclusively to Rogers customers.

Bell TV says that the GamePlus mobile app should be made available for free to all NHL GameCentre Live subscribers, not just those who are customers of Rogers Communications

"Consumers who are not Rogers customers will be harmed as a result of being blocked from accessing this content," Bell TV argues. Rogers has until Nov. 20 to respond formally to the complaint. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Woman charged over dead infants in locker

Andrea Giesbrecht. Winnipeg resident, 40, faces six counts of concealing a body, forensic tests should give case more clarity

Police have charged a woman who was renting a storage locker where the remains of six babies were found, but they say it could be months before they know who the infants were or how they died.

Andrea Giesbrecht, 40, was arrested outside her home in north Winnipeg. Const. Eric Hofley said she faces six charges of concealing a body and one charge of breaching probation. Giesbrecht has also used the name Andrea Naworynski. Hofley said it will take an extensive forensic investigation to determine if she is related to the dead infants.

The state of the remains discovered Monday was such that police were initially unable to determine how many babies were in the locker. Their ages are still unknown, but they are believed to have been newborns, he said.

"The forensics that are going to be involved in this investigation, they're numerous," Hofley said Wednesday. "It will be a long time before we're able to answer these questions — if at all."

There are no homicide charges right now and police aren't interviewing any other suspects, Hofley added.

Greg Brodsky, Giesbrecht's lawyer, said he had seen a preliminary outline of the charges and met with his client. "She's in bewilderment," he said.

Giesbrecht was initially arrested on murder charges, but those weren't the charges that were filed with the court, Brodsky said. That indicates the autopsy and forensic investigation isn't complete yet, he said.

"The forensic examination is really important," Brodsky said. "There has to be an autopsy conducted in order to determine where this case is going." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police in Winnipeg have charged a woman who was renting a storage locker where the remains of six babies were found. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa thrown into chaos after gunman storms the Hill

Police secure an area around Parliament Hill on Wednesday. A gunman opened fire at the National War Memorial, killing a soldier, then moved to nearby Parliament Hill and wounded a security guard before he was shot, reportedly by Parliament's sergeant-at-arms. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rampage. Shooter killed, but police remain on lookout for more suspects

TREVOR GREENWAY
Metro in Ottawa

Ottawa went into siege mode Wednesday after a gunman rampaged into Parliament Hill's Centre Block shortly after he shot and killed a Canadian Forces reservist who was guarding the National War Memorial.

A high-ranking federal official confirmed Wednesday that the gunman killed in Wednesday's deadly shooting incident was Michael Zehaf-Bibeau, according to The Canadian Press.

Cpl. Nathan Cirillo has been identified as the soldier killed by Zehaf-Bibeau at the National War Memorial.

The Hamilton, Ont.-based reservist was standing as the honour guard at the memorial when he was shot. He later succumbed to his injuries.

On Wednesday night, police reinstated a lockdown in some areas of downtown Ottawa before later calling it off.

Police said there's no longer a threat to public safety in the downtown core. However, an investigation is ongoing on Parliament Hill. The Hill is closed to the public.

The RCMP are leading the investigation. More police presence is expected in the downtown area over the next few days.

According to witnesses, Cirillo was shot twice at "point-blank" range before the gunman ran toward Parliament's Centre Block. Several MPs said House of Commons Sergeant-at-Arms Kevin Vickers then fatally shot the gunman.

In a release issued Wednesday afternoon, police confirmed Zehaf-Bibeau had been killed. No other suspects are in custody, though police said others are being sought.

In a separate release, Ottawa Hospital said it had received three shooting victims from Wednesday's incident. Two are listed in stable condition.

Police refuted earlier reports of a separate shooting at the Rideau Centre mall.

Footage captured by a Globe and Mail reporter also shows police opening fire within the Hall of Honour.

Liberal Senate staffer Stuart Barnable told Metro he saw the whole shooting happen from his office on the East Block of Parliament.

"The guy pulled up outside the war memorial, jumped out of his car, got out with a rifle and shot at the guys who guard the war memorial. He hit one by the look of it. The other (soldier) booted it.

"(The shooter) ran back into his car, backed up Wellington (Street), and then swerved around and came up and jumped out and ran up towards the House of Commons. He had a long rifle."

Barnable said the man pulled the plates off a grey Toyota Corolla.

"He ran up the Hill and had a scarf covering his face. I ran down and told security to lock the doors."

Tony Zobl, 35, said he saw the soldier being shot from his office window above the war memorial.

"I looked out the window and saw a shooter — a man dressed all in black with a kerchief over his nose and mouth and something over his head as well — holding a rifle and shooting an honour guard in front of the cenotaph point-blank, twice," Zobl said.

"The honour guard dropped to the ground and the shooter kind of raised his arms in triumph."

Scott Walsh was working in a manhole near the East Block building when he said he heard gunshots. He then saw the ensuing panic and a gunman he said had long black hair and a face covered with a white scarf.

"He had a double-barrelled shotgun, he was about five feet from me and he ran right beside us, ran past the woman with the stroller and child."

The gunman then hijacked a car at gunpoint and drove it toward the Peace Tower.

The incident comes just two days after two Canadian soldiers were run over — and one of them killed — in Quebec by a man with jihadist sympathies.

Witnesses and those who have seen anything suspicious are urged to call 911, Crime Stoppers or Ottawa police directly at 613-236-1222, ext. 5493.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS, ANDREW FIFIELD, JOE LOFARO AND LUCY SCHOLEY

Malala events called off

Prime Minister Stephen Harper's office said two events scheduled for Wednesday in Toronto with Nobel Peace Prize winner Malala Yousafzai were cancelled.

- Harper was to moderate an afternoon question-and-answer session with Yousafzai at a Toronto high school.
- He was then scheduled to head to a downtown hotel, where the 17-year-old was to receive honorary Canadian citizenship.

Malala Yousafzai
RUI VIEIRA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

On the scene

Witnesses describe close calls with shooter

Barry Willis, a contractor for Bell Canada who was working in front of Parliament Hill at the time of the shooting, said he heard five or six gunshots and saw the shooter running by him carrying a large firearm, possibly a shotgun or rifle.

"He turned around, pointed the gun at me and I dove behind my truck," said Willis, who was still rattled by the incident after speaking to the RCMP. "Another young parliamentarian type of guy dove into my truck."

Willis described the gunman he saw as a "very young" man wearing a "blue-and-white headscarf" and a long coat.

"I'm shaken up. I'm ex-military and I've never had a gun pointed at me like that," said Willis as police ushered him and other bystanders to a safer area along Elgin Street across from the National War Memorial.

Alberta Labour Minister Ric McIver was on Wellington Street when he said he saw a gunman move on foot.

"I saw him go around the corner toward the Parliament buildings," said McIver. "It was a little frightening and (I) worried about people's safety."

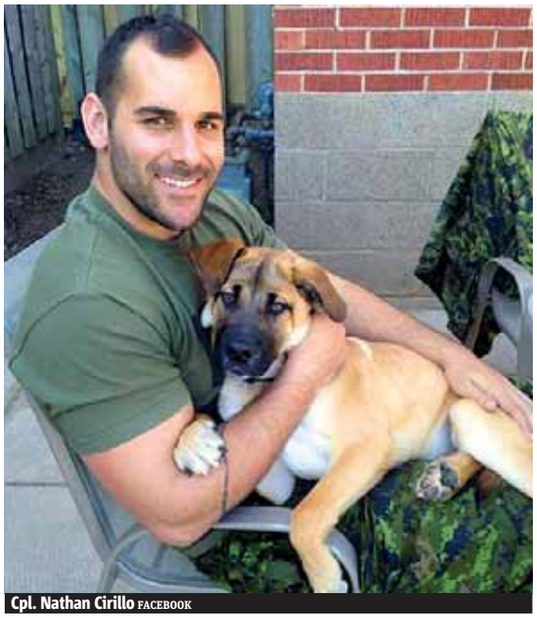
Jennifer Wiebe was on lockdown inside a Sparks Street office building. Police evacuated her and others about two hours later.

"It's certainly unnerving to know (because) Parliament is a very public place and (there are) lots of people," she said.

JOE LOFARO/METRO IN OTTAWA

Barry Willis JOE LOFARO/METRO

Fallen soldier was a young dad who 'always wanted to serve his country'


Cpl. Nathan Cirillo FACEBOOK

Cpl. Nathan Cirillo. Mourners came to pay their respects to the 24-year-old soldier killed while on duty in Ottawa

JESSICA SMITH CROSS
Metro in Hamilton

Cpl. Nathan Cirillo wanted to serve Canada in the military since his days at Sherwood Secondary School, when he wrote in his friends' yearbook that they would all go to Afghanistan together.

But that would never happen.

"He always wanted to serve his country," said his friend Jimmy Doan.

"At the time, that's where help was needed and he always wanted to be the person to help," said friend Alana Schneider.

After the news broke that Cirillo, 24, was the reservist shot and killed in Ottawa Wednesday, his high school friends went to the James Street Armoury in Hamilton, the home of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

Mourners left flowers all afternoon and into the evening as reservists, who wore street clothes as they were warned not to wear their uniforms in public, filed in through the armoury gates.

Cirillo's friends remembered him as the class clown who always made everybody laugh. Cirillo has two sisters and parents in Hamilton whom he was very close to, his friends said.

Schneider's fondest memory of Cirillo was eating his army food under a tree near their school. He'd been bragging about it and then brought some for his friends to try.

"It was awful," she said.

He has a young son named Marcus. Cirillo met the boy's mother, Kendra, at the Ancaster Fair after Cirillo and Doan were escorted out for not paying their way in, recalled Doan. Kendra and a friend asked them for a ride home, he said. "And voilà."

Jason Melnyk, also a high school friend, said Cirillo worked at GoodLife Fitness and loved working out. He last saw him at the gym, where he was lifting 210 pounds.

"He made it look easy, which pissed me off," he said.

Schneider said he was always strong, and recalled Cirillo lifting her up over his head and throwing her into a lake back in high school, she said.

A young woman who came by the James Street Armoury to pay her respects is a family friend and babysits Cirillo's son Marcus. Cirillo was funny, but would never take jokes too far, she said.

Passions

Cpl. Nathan Cirillo FACEBOOK

According to his Facebook profile, Cpl. Nathan Cirillo was an animal lover, outdoor enthusiast and fitness buff.

- Photographs show him posing with a dog last month. Other pictures show him with an axe in the woods in uniform, or smiling broadly as he stands in a river in swimming trunks. Another shows a kitten peeking out from his military backpack. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Checkered past?

Alleged shooter's name linked to 2011 robbery in Vancouver

A man with the same name as the gunman in Wednesday's shooting in Ottawa had a criminal record in Vancouver.

The slain shooter has been identified as Michael Joseph Paul Zehaf-Bibeau, born in 1982. A man with the same name and year of birth was charged in Vancouver in December 2011 with robbery.

Court records indicate he was seen by a psychiatrist while in jail and found fit for trial. The Vancouver police and the B.C. RCMP have confirmed they are working with the municipal police and Mounties in Ottawa. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Photo of shooter TWITTER

Sergeant-at-arms hailed as a hero on Parliament Hill

Selfless action. Longtime RCMP vet and head of House of Commons security led the sweep resulting in the shooter's death

Sergeant-at-Arms Kevin Vickers of the House of Commons is being hailed for his bravery after he shot down an armed gunman storming the Centre Block on Wednesday morning. PAWEL DWULIT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Kevin Vickers, the decorated RCMP veteran credited with bringing down the Parliament Hill gunman, has always put community and country first, his brother said Wednesday.

The 58-year-old, now serving as House of Commons sergeant-at-arms, is believed to have led a team of officers into the Centre Block building and shot an armed intruder.

Across the country in Victoria, his brother John Vickers waited anxiously for word that his brother was all right — he'd seen raw footage of the dramatic shootout.

"It was just a tremendous sense of relief that he was OK," he said, adding he'd been in contact with family but hadn't spoken to his brother.

"The situation's still a bit fluid and because he's the guy still in charge of the security there, I don't need to be high on the conversation scale right now for him," John said Wednesday.

John said while the sergeant-at-arms may seem to be a symbolic position, what with the long gowns and the ceremonial sceptre he's often in possession of, it's actually a role of great importance.

"He's the top gun there.... There's a lot of infrastructure there and I think he actually has 3,000 people there that he's in charge of," John said. "It's a huge responsibility."

John said his brother served with the Calgary RCMP in the 1990s and called the community of Scenic Acres home. He rose through the ranks and eventually moved to New Brunswick.

At age 58, Kevin was appointed director of security operations for the House of Commons in June 2005.

On Twitter, MPs credited Vickers with saving their lives.

"MPs and Hill staff owe their safety, even lives, to Sergeant-at-Arms Kevin Vickers who shot (the) attacker just outside the MPs' caucus rooms," tweeted New Democrat Craig Scott.

Veterans Affairs Minister Julian Fantino tweeted: "I am safe and profoundly grateful to Sgt- -at-Arms Kevin Vickers and our security forces for (the) selfless act of keeping us safe."

John, meanwhile, said his brother has always put service to the country first.

"It's never been about him.... He was called upon by the nation today to respond.... It doesn't surprise me that he answered the call on behalf of the nation and served us to the extent that he had to." JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO IN CALGARY, WITH FILES FROM TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Kevin Vickers

If Canadians recognize Vickers, it's with good reason.

- **Brigitte DePape.** Canadians might remember him as the man who firmly but gently led the protesting page Brigitte DePape out of the red senate chamber after she held up a "Stop Harper" sign.

Scenes from a dark day

Wednesday's shootings sent Ottawa into a surreal state of lockdown as police, paramedics and citizens responded to the morning's violence, which left two people dead.

1 Securing Parliament

Police secure the scene of a shooting on Parliament Hill in Ottawa on Wednesday. A Canadian soldier standing guard at the National War Memorial had been shot by a then-unknown gunman and there were reports of gunfire inside the halls of Parliament.

ADRIAN WYLD/ THE CANADIAN PRESS

2 Searching for suspects

Police point their guns toward the roof of a building on Sparks Street as they search for a possible second suspect.

JOE LOFARO/METRO

3 Evacuation

An RCMP officer stands guard as office workers are evacuated from a building on Sparks Street. **JOE LOFARO/METRO**

4 Barricading the door

A photo by Conservative MP Nina Grewal shows MPs barricading themselves in a meeting room on Parliament Hill after shots were fired inside the building.
NINA GREWAL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

5 Mass exit from Parliament

Conservative MPs are transported in an Ottawa transit bus from the Parliament buildings. **SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

6 Vehicle connected to shooting

An older-model Toyota Corolla, which is believed to be connected to the shooting, sits parked and idling in front of Parliament Hill Wednesday morning.
JOE LOFARO/METRO

7 Paramedics respond

Police and paramedics tend to the soldier shot at the National Memorial, later identified as Nathan Cirillo of Hamilton, Ont., who died of his injuries.
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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'A very scary experience'

Netflix helps to pass the time. A student at the University of Ottawa talks about the atmosphere during lockdown

MIKE DONACHIE
Metro in London, Ont.

University of Ottawa students under lockdown following the Parliament Hill shooting. COURTESY EMILY CORDES

A student from London, Ont., described a tense atmosphere in lockdown at the University of Ottawa.

Emily Cordes, 22, spoke to Metro from inside the university, just a brief walk from Parliament Hill, as shootings unfolded Wednesday.

A soldier died after being shot while standing guard at the National War Memorial.

The man believed to be the shooter is also dead, officials have said.

Cordes said everyone was afraid.

Some students were trying to keep the mood light, even watching shows on Netflix, but everyone was staying as silent as possible.

"All of the university and much of the city is locked down," said Cordes, who's studying communication with a minor in French as a second language.

"All students who were on campus at the time of lockdown were told to stay on campus in locked classrooms with lights off."

Asked about the mood at the university and the classroom where she was sitting at the time, Cordes said it was "quite varied."

"A lot of students in this room don't seem too concerned and are passing the time watching Netflix and chatting with each other.

"Others like myself are wanting to follow instructions and stay silent until we are told we can leave.

"Nonetheless, it's a very scary experience for all involved — even those who are taking it lightly."

She said her class had been due to take a midterm Wednesday, but it was cancelled.

Cordes moved to Ottawa to study in 2011, but said she often returns to London.

A short drive from downtown at Carleton University, Londoner Haley Ritchie, 21, was in class as the drama unfolded.

"It's pretty crazy," said the fourth-year journalism student, whose family still lives in London.

"I think most people are just absolutely shocked that this happened, especially in Ottawa. It's not normal here."

She said she had been swapping texts with her roommate, a student at the University of Ottawa who was in lockdown there for most of the day.

People were coping well, Ritchie added, but there could be difficult times as the events sink in.

"The fallout's going to come in a few days," she said. "I think the reaction's going to come later."

Tragedy in Ottawa

Shades of gunman that killed three in legislature in 1984

The attack on Parliament that left a Canadian Forces reservist dead Wednesday chilled the longest-serving member of Quebec's legislature as he recalled a gunman's assault there 30 years ago.

Francois Gendron, an ever-present member of the national assembly since 1976, was at the legislature when Cpl. Denis Lortie went on his rampage on May 8, 1984, that killed three and wounded 13.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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‘CANADA WILL NEVER BE INTIMIDATED’

Prime Minister Stephen Harper in a screengrab of his televised statement from an undisclosed location in Ottawa on Wednesday night, the full transcript of which is below. PMO/THE CANADIAN PRESS

My fellow Canadians.

For the second time this week, there has been a brutal and violent attack on our soil. Today our thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of Cpl. Nathan Cirillo of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders. Cpl. Cirillo was killed today, murdered in cold blood as he provided a ceremonial honour guard at Canada’s National War Memorial, that sacred place that pays tribute to those who gave their lives so that we can live in a free, democratic and safe society.

Likewise our thoughts and prayers remain also with the family and friends of Warrant Officer Patrice Vincent, who was killed earlier this week by an ISIL-inspired terrorist.

Tonight we also pray for the speedy recovery of the others injured in these despicable attacks.

Fellow Canadians, we’ve also been reminded today of the compassionate and courageous nature of so many Canadians — like those private citizens and first responders who came to provide aid to Cpl. Cirillo as he fought for his life. And of course the members of our security forces, in the RCMP, the City of Ottawa police, and in Parliament, who came quickly and at great risk to themselves to assist those of us who were close to the attack.

Fellow Canadians, in the days to come, we will learn more about the terrorist and any accomplices he may have had. But this week’s events are a grim reminder that Canada is not immune to the types of terrorist attacks we have seen elsewhere around the world.

We are also reminded that attacks on our security personnel and on our institutions of governance are by their very nature, attacks on our country, on our values. On our society, on us Canadians as a free and democratic people who embrace human dignity for all.

But let there be no misunderstanding. We will not be intimidated. Canada will never be intimidated. In fact, this will lead us to strengthen our resolve and redouble our efforts and those of our national security agencies to take all necessary steps to identify and counter threats and keep Canada safe here at home, just as it will lead us to strengthen our resolve and redouble our efforts to work with our allies around the world and fight against the terrorist organizations who brutalize those in other countries with the hope of bringing their savagery to our shores. They will have no safe haven.

While today has been without question a difficult day, I have no doubt Canadians will pull together with the kind of firm solidarity that has seen our country through many challenges. Together we will remain vigilant against those at home or abroad who wish to harm us.

For now, Laureen and I and Ben and Rachel join all Canadians in praying for those touched by today’s attack. May God bless them and keep our land glorious and free.

NDP Leader Tom Mulcair

‘We will not forget’

“I stand here tonight in solidarity, side-by-side with my colleagues, with our Prime Minister and with all Canadians.

“This attack struck with sudden and deadly violence.

“It was intended to make us more fearful of our neighbours and less confident in ourselves.

“But it has failed.

“Today’s events have instead only succeeded in drawing us closer, in making us stronger.

“We woke up this morning in a country blessed by love, diversity and peace, and tomorrow we will do the same.

“Canada is shaken today, but we shall not waver.”

EXCERPTS EDITED BY METRO

Liberal Leader Justin Trudeau

‘We will get answers’

“It was a cowardly act. An unarmed man was murdered in cold blood.

“Losing ourselves to fear and speculation is the intention of those who commit these heinous acts.

“We will remember who we are. We are a proud democracy. A welcoming and peaceful nation.

“We have remained Canadians and this is how we will carry on.

“The picture (we have) in our minds (is) of Canadians helping and protecting Canadians. That is who we truly are.”

EXCERPTS EDITED BY METRO

Twitter

@MikeKX947: Thoughts are with the young man who lost his life standing on guard for thee

@EdmontonOilers: Stay strong, Canada.

@AndrewLawton: praying for all those serving their country with pride and honour in Ottawa. #OttawaStrong

@mackaytaggart: Beyond powerful. Hours after deadly shooting in Ottawa, soldiers back on guard at National War Memorial.

@SimoneStop: thank you to the men and women who run towards the danger to keep us safe. #RCMP #StaySafeOttawa

@birdspxtting: Thank you everyone that’s praying for my city

@laura_toniolo: days like today should remind us to always be thankful for our canadian soldiers, police & RCMP #TrueNorthStrong #PrayForOttawa

@OttawaFuryFC: Today was a sad day, but seeing the support from the soccer community across Canada, the US and beyond is very touching #TrueNorthStrong

@Nicrobinson28: Thank you for your support as our country recovers from a tragic day @penguins. My thoughts are with his loved ones #canadastrong

@richbirch: Miss Canada tonight ... miss my home and native land. #TrueNorthStrong

@Faulksnation: Today we aren’t Conservatives, Liberals or NDP’s... today we aren’t West Coast or East Coast... What we are is United!

Leaders react to shooting

“I had a chance to travel to the Parliament in Ottawa ... I am reminded of how warmly I was received and how wonderful the people there were. And so, obviously, we’re all shaken by it.” **U.S. President Barack Obama**

“I’m appalled by today’s attack in Ottawa. I offer my full support to @pmharper and the Canadian people as they deal with this incident.” **British Prime Minister David Cameron** via Twitter

“I spoke w/ @pmharper & expressed our condolences & solidarity w/ Canada, following the horrific murder of a Canadian soldier.” **Prime Minister of Australia Tony Abbott** via Twitter

“Together with all of Canada, Sharon and I are shocked and deeply saddened to learn of today’s attacks.” **Canada’s Governor General David Johnston**

“(My) thoughts are with the people and government of Canada at this difficult time.” **Statement on behalf of UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon**

With lots of love from Pittsburgh

A sell-out crowd belted out O Canada as the Canadian flag was flashed on the scoreboard and projected onto the ice at the Consol Energy Center before the Penguins game against the Philadelphia Flyers, Wednesday night, in Pittsburgh, Pa. The Canadian anthem is normally played in U.S. hockey arenas only when a Canadian team plays. ANGIE CARDUCCI/TWITTER

metro

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Poet's opera confronts society struggling with its insecurity

Stickboy. Production tells Shayne Koyczan's story as a shunned and bullied overweight boy

BACKSTAGE PASS
Graeme McRanor
vancouver@metronews.ca

The opera ain't over until the fat lady sings: a clichéd colloquialism that was probably a lot funnier when reportedly first uttered by Texas Tech sports information director Ralph Carpenter in 1976.

But you get the point: It ain't over 'til it's over (hat tip, Yogi Berra).

It all could have easily been over for Shayne Koyczan. Shunned, bullied and provoked as an overweight boy, Koyczan — now a well-known spoken-word poet and author — found solace and courage in his colourful imagination.

Unfortunately, that courage mutated and manifested as violence.

If you've seen Koyczan's TED Talk For the Bullied and the Beautiful, or his viral short To This Day, then you're already familiar with his story. If not, well, no matter — everyone can, on some level, identify with it.

Now, he's turned it into an opera called Stickboy, a work that his Vancouver Opera collaborators say "confronts a society struggling with its own fear and insecurity — a society that seeks conformity and uniformity at the expense of those who are different."

Composed by Neil Weisensel, with Koyczan as the librettist, the production features 13 singers accompanied by 11 members of the Vancouver Opera Orchestra.

It stars tenor Sunny Shams as the Boy, mezzo-soprano Megan Latham as the Grandmother, and baritone Willy Miles-Grenzberg, soprano Heather Pawsey and baritone Alan MacDonald in various roles.

The show's animations are being done by Giant Ant, the same studio that collaborated with him on To This Day.

Stickboy's world premiere is tonight and it runs until Nov. 7 at the Vancouver Playhouse. More information at vancouveropera.ca.

Things to do

Here are other events around town this week.

- **Downtown Eastside Heart of the City Festival.** Kicks off Oct. 29, with more than 90 events at various locations. Heartofthecityfestival.com.
- **Vancouver Flamenco Festival.** Starts Oct. 28 and goes until Nov. 11 at various venues. Vancouverflamencofestival.org.
- **El Cigala.** Grammy-winning flamenco singer Diego El Cigala performs with his band at the Chan Centre Saturday at 8 p.m. Tickets from $46. Chancentre.com.

Sunny Shams stars as the Boy in poet Shane Koyczan's Stickboy, performed by Vancouver Opera. TIM MATHESON

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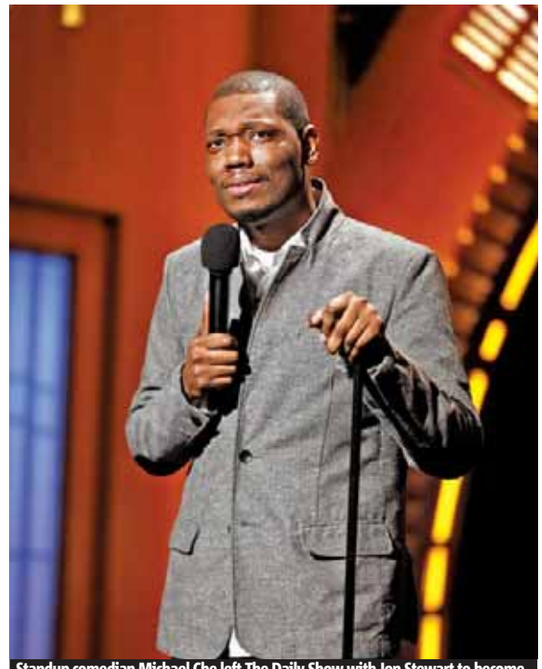
New York standup now has a seat at Weekend Update

Television. The first African-American to co-anchor SNL's news segment dishes on life in his hometown, new gig

NED EHRBAR
Metro in Hollywood



Standup comedian Michael Che left The Daily Show with Jon Stewart to become the co-anchor of Saturday Night Live's Weekend Update. GETTY IMAGES FILE

It's safe to say New York City has been good to native Michael Che. The comedian and writer is co-anchor of Saturday Night Live's Weekend Update — and the first African American to sit behind the desk — a gig he left The Daily Show with Jon Stewart to take. And now he's the face of the #NYTough campaign. Not too shabby. But that doesn't mean life in New York isn't still without its drawbacks.

What's your approach to Weekend Update, as the newest anchor behind the desk?
My approach is just talking about things that I would like to see talked about and telling the jokes that I think are really funny. The feedback's been great. It's still a process of learning how to do the job better. I feel like every week is a process of getting better, and we're definitely headed in the right direction, and me and (co-anchor Colin) Jost are having a lot of fun up there.

Was there any level of intimidation factor the first time you sat there?
Oh, absolutely. It's extremely intimidating because you're doing something that a lot of people care about. A lot of people care about Saturday Night Live and Weekend Update — they grew up with it, it's important to them. It's like you're babysitting somebody's kid. You don't want it to get messed up on your shift.

You've done both SNL and The Daily Show now, which is impressive. Do other NYC comics resent you for hogging all the opportunities?
They shouldn't. If they are, they're thinking of the wrong things. They're looking at it weird, because the more New York comedians getting jobs on Update or Daily Show or SNL, if we do it, well, it makes it easier for the next guy because they're always looking for the next one.

Comedy is a cycle, so the more people that are like you that get these opportunities, the better. When Hannibal (Buress) gets these opportunities, I feel like I got it because it's opening doors. So be happy for me and Pete Davidson for being standups that are doing these shows because now they're going to be looking for more standups.

You're a native New Yorker. Everyone always talks about how much safer and cleaner the city has become over the last 20 or 30 years, but do you think it's gotten any tougher to live here?
New York is still the toughest city, I believe, but it's different. Obviously it's a lot more expensive and a lot faster. Technology has made things a lot easier, and it's a lot safer than it used to be, but it's still tough. Just ask anybody on the 29th when rent is due how tough New York really is.

Is there a particular NYC odour that's the worst for you?
Oh man, there's plenty of New York smells, but the empty car on a crowded subway is the worst smell in New York City. You walk in because you say, "Wow, there are seats!" Every other car is crowded. Then as soon as you get on you get why that train car is empty — because it smells to holy hell and the doors are closed and you can't get off. That's the toughest thing to smell in New York, in my opinion.

You used to be able to actually walk between the cars.
You used to! You used to be able to walk through the cars, but I guess a lot of people got hurt so they stopped that.

I feel like New York has grown up a lot as far as safety. It used to be you could do a lot of dangerous things, but now there's a cop stand on every corner. It's changed in that way. It's still a tough place to live.

SHOPPERS DRUG MART
SEE WHAT'S NEW... CHECK OUT OUR LATEST OFFER ON PAGE 24

Nikolaj Coster-Waldau and Juliette Binoche star in 1,000 Times Good Night. CONTRIBUTED

A snapshot of life as a conflict photographer

Movies. Juliette Binoche takes on the role of a truth-seeking photojournalist in 1,000 Times Good Night

Juliette Binoche is known for pouring everything into her performances. For her role as a dedicated war photographer in 1,000 Times Good Night, she met with top journalists who have captured global atrocities — not only to understand their work, but their personal lives and motivations.

"It just showed me how meaningful it is and how much it costs. And how they organize themselves and how it can be also very tricky in their personal life," the French actress said in a phone interview. "You have to find the right people around you to help you in this difficult journey, because it's not that easy. You're seeing horror and you're alone."

Opening Friday, the film features Binoche as Rebecca, a photojournalist who returns home from Kabul after an especially close brush with death. Her husband (Nikolaj Coster-Waldau) seethes with resentment as he has been busy raising their two daughters while she risks her life in conflict zones.

The rift in their marriage worsens when she takes their daughter (Lauryn Canny) on a trip to Kenya that erupts in violence. Rebecca again makes a decision that puts her as close to the danger as possible — the kind of snap judgement call she makes instinctively and her husband can no longer support.

Norwegian director Erik Poppe (Troubled Water) based the film on his own experience as a former war photographer. But he chose to switch the genders in the film, making Binoche his proxy and casting Coster-Waldau as the character based on his wife.

Quoted

"Witnessing places in the world ... can change, not always, but can change the consciousness of people and also political decisions." Juliette Binoche on war photography

Binoche said she was drawn to 1,000 Times Good Night because she had always been fascinated by war photography. She met with Lynsey Addario, an acclaimed photojournalist known for her work in Afghanistan and Gaza, as well as Zoriah Miller, Marcus Bleasdale and others.

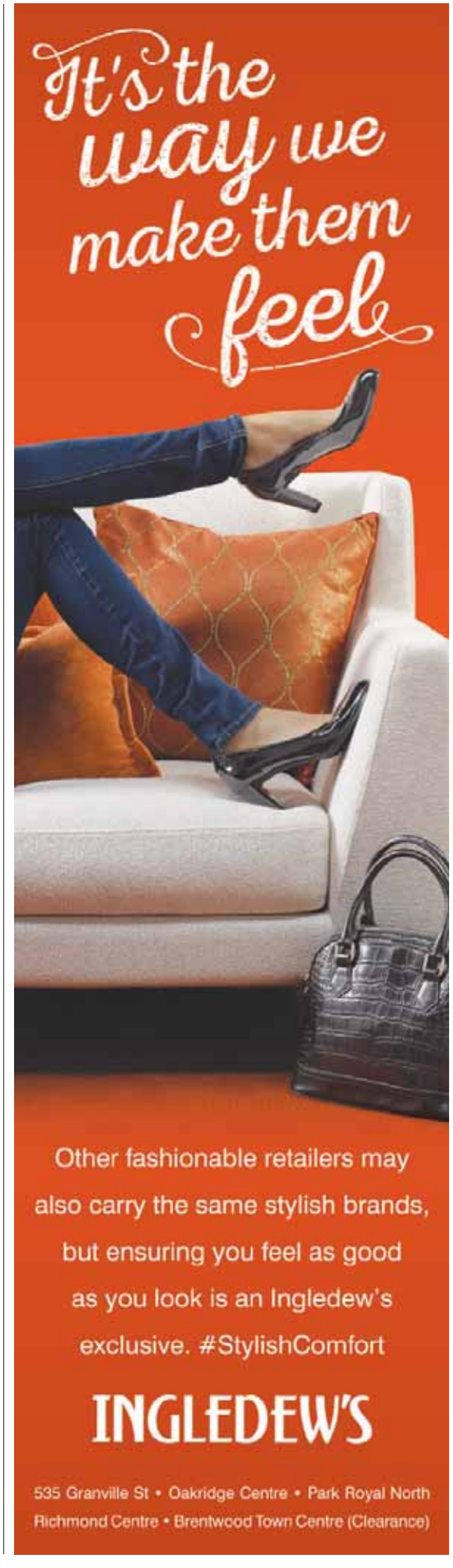
"I was wondering as I was talking to them, 'Where is the need coming from?' As an actress of course I was thinking, 'Oh, it's all in the childhood,' the need of being seen and heard and going to very dangerous places — seen and heard because you were not seen and heard in your childhood," Binoche said.

Rebecca is often accused by family and friends of being addicted to the excitement and danger. But she is also determined to make people sit up and pay attention to the horrors of the world: "I want people to choke on their coffee and see and feel and react," she says.

This need to bear witness to injustice is a true motivation of war photographers, said Binoche.

"Witnessing places in the world ... can change, not always, but can change the consciousness of people and also political decisions. So the power it gives to consciousness is also very much what very high-profile war journalists and photographers are doing."

THE CANADIAN PRESS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Television

Eva goes by the book with female-led comedy

Though she rarely steps in front of the camera anymore, former Desperate Housewives star Eva Longoria hasn't left TV. She has become quite a prolific producer for the small screen. Created with the screenwriters behind 90210, her latest sell, to ABC, is a female-led comedy series titled Bookclub.

This new project will focus on four female protagonists who pretend to be in a book club to get a break from the pressures and responsibilities of life.

Already a producer on the Lifetime series Devious Maids, Longoria adds Bookclub to the long list of productions in development at her UnbeliEVAble Entertainment outfit. AFP

Movies

Sean Bean stays grounded in The Martian

International Emmy Award winner Sean Bean has joined the cast of The Martian, joining Matt Damon, Jessica Chastain and Michael Peña for Ridley Scott's tale of desperate off-world survival.

Bean, well known for his appearances in Game of Thrones and Peter Jackson's The Lord of the Rings, will play a NASA flight director, reports Empire.

Matt Damon was installed early on as main character Mark Watney, whose crew accidentally deserts him on Mars.

The November 2015 film is based on Andy Weir's self-published sci-fi success, which debuted as a free download in 2012. AFP

Ryan Murphy attends the premiere screening of American Horror Story: Freak Show on Oct. 5. KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES

Television. Ryan Murphy sells another horror series

American Horror Story creator Ryan Murphy will mine a similar vein with Scream Queens, a new horror-comedy series ordered by Fox, The Hollywood Reporter reveals.

Due to air in fall 2015, the first series is set on a college campus rocked by series of murders. The idea is to reprise the anthology format of the FX series American Horror Story, introducing a new setting and plot each season.

The first 15 episodes ordered by Fox will centre on two heroines. Ryan Murphy and producer Brad Falchuk have begun the process of casting the two leads as well as 10 supporting roles.

Scream Queens is Murphy's third series slated to air on American TV next fall. Along with American Horror Story, which will enter its fifth season, FX will air its new spinoff American Crime Story. In the meantime, Murphy's Fox series Glee will end after its sixth cycle, which is due to premiere during the mid-season.

Next year, NBC plans to introduce Shades of Blue (a crime series produced by Jennifer Lopez), Manhunt and Heroes: Reborn. The latter will mark the return of Tim Kring's series after five years off the air. AFP

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MEDIA PARTNER
comedy

Avatar Secrets

Episode 8: Perseverance

Ramona receives a surprising text message that makes her question what is real... and she questions whether or not she wants to continue on her virtual quest. "It's something called a dopamine loop... a hunger for knowledge," says Tiffany Shlain, filmmaker and founder of The Webby Awards. Scan this photo for a video of Shlain talking about why we can't stop clicking.

metro AR

COMMISSIONED BY TVO, AVATAR SECRETS IS AN ONLINE DOCUMENTARY THAT EXPLORES THE ALLURE OF THE VIRTUAL WORLD AS A NEW FRONTIER FOR CREATING EMPATHETIC CONNECTIONS AND PURSUING SELF-DISCOVERY. Visit metronews.ca/avatarsecrets over the next few days as we post daily chapters from Avatar Secrets.

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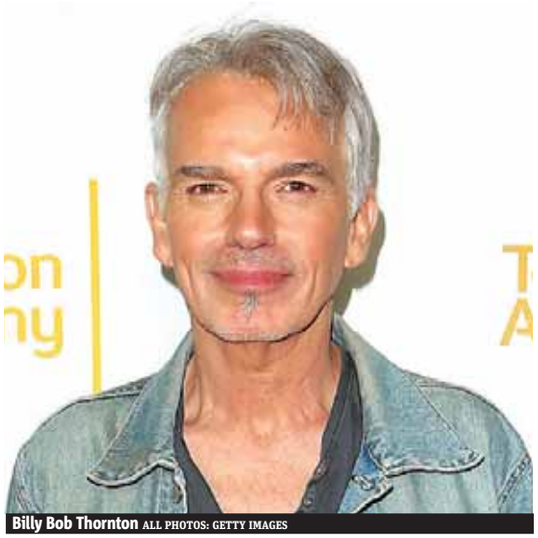

Billy Bob Thornton ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

Billy Bob finally clears the air about that vampire rumour

If you've been waiting and waiting for Billy Bob Thornton to finally address that whole Angelina Jolie wearing a vial of blood around her neck thing from more than a decade ago — then first of all, weird. And second of all, it's your lucky day!

While speaking at Loyola Marymount University in L.A. recently, the Sling Blade actor was asked about his ex-wife's infamous piece of jewelry.

"I think it's your duty to kind of tell people the truth about this stuff, and the truth is not encouraged anymore," Thornton says. So here's the truth: "You know those lockets you buy that are clear and you put a picture of your granny in it or something like that and wear it around your neck? That's what it was," he explains.

"She thought it would be interesting and romantic if we took a little razor blade and sliced our fingers, smeared a little blood on these lockets and you wear it around your neck just like you wear your son or daughter's baby hair in one. Same thing. From that, we were wearing quart jars of blood around our necks. And we were vampires and we lived in a dungeon."

I knew it!

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Zellweger isn't afraid to 'face' media frenzy

NED EHRBAR
Metro in Hollywood

So if you were anywhere around the Internet earlier this week, you heard about Renee Zellweger and reactions to her recent red carpet appearance. Or, more specifically, reactions to her face. Well, apparently Zellweger was listening. And in a move completely uncharacteristic of celebrity culture, she has offered her own response to the fracas. Only it's more awesome in theory than in practice. "I'm glad folks think I look different! I'm living a different, happy, more fulfilling life, and I'm thrilled that perhaps it shows," she tells People magazine. She also calls all the discussion and debate "silly," which isn't exactly the word I'd use for it, but there you go.

"It seems the folks who come digging around for some nefarious truth which doesn't exist won't get off my porch until I answer the door," Zellweger continues, somehow pulling off folksy and coy simultaneously. "My friend say that I look peaceful. I am healthy. For a long time I wasn't doing such a good job with that. I took on a schedule that is not realistically sustainable and didn't allow for taking care of myself. Rather than stopping to recalibrate, I kept running until I was depleted and made bad choices about how to conceal the exhaustion. I was aware of the chaos and finally chose different things." As for talk of a drastic change in her appearance? That's just time, baby. "People don't know me in my 40s," Zellweger explains. "People don't know me healthy for a while. Perhaps I look different. Who doesn't as they get older? But I am different. I'm happy." So I guess you can get off her porch now?

Twitter

@rustyrockets
Media reaction to my UNRELEASED book - "Who are you to say anything?" or "How dare you say something".

@TayeDiggs
Sting is the coolest dude I know and he's 98 but he looks younger because he uses sunscreen.

@ZacharyQuinto
kudos to renee zellweger for responding with grace and intelligence to a deluge of unfounded accusation. a classy and thoughtful statement.

Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel

Tabloid makes nice with the Timberlakes

It turns out all Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel really wanted was an apology, and they got one.

In a Dublin courtroom this week, British tabloid Heat was forced to offer a mea culpa for reporting that Timberlake had been flirting with women in Paris this summer.

"The article was based on an unfounded report regarding Justin Timberlake's alleged behaviour at a club following a performance in Paris to celebrate a birthday and also included a number of purported statements improperly attributed to Jessica Biel, which Heat now understand had never been made by her," representatives for the tabloid said in a statement read in court, adding that Heat "regrets any embarrassment caused to the couple and unreservedly apologizes to them."

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Be creative with your Halloween party snacks and tie them into your theme.
SHUTTERSTOCK

Throw a ghoulish gathering

Plan it. Halloween parties lend themselves to lots of games, fun snacks, and cool decorations

MICHELLE WILLIAMS
For Metro

It's that time of year when monsters, witches, cowboys and princesses make their annual appearances. So plan for a shrieking good time. Here are some easy, eerie ideas, and totally terrifying tips for a happy Halloween party put together with the help of party planner extraordinaire Nancy Zaretsky of My Perfect Party Inc.

Choose a theme

There are so many ways to celebrate — from a pumpkin-carving event to a Halloween fun house party, or spook it up with a monster bash, or a witches and wizards gathering. "Use the theme as your anchor and tie in all party elements to your theme," Zaretsky said.

Send invitations

"The theme of your party should be apparent in your invite," Zaretsky said. If children are invited, let guests know of the "spook factor" so they can prepare little ones. "Use specifics from your theme and word the invite in a fun way — or make it scary," Zaretsky said.

Make up a menu

Be creative about snacks: Orange cheese popcorn; spider sandwiches (using cookie cutters); banana ghosts; freaky pizza fingers; pumpkin brain salsa dip; and chocolate pretzel spider webs are just a few ghastly good dishes. For your punch, simply freeze some green drink mix in a rubber glove then peel it off to create a giant monster ice cube hand.

Co-ordinate games, music

Make sure you add lots of spooky music to your mix — old favourites like Thriller, Monster Mash, Love Potion #9, Werewolves of London, Rock Lobster and Ghostbusters, to name a few, are guaranteed hits. Turn tried-and-tested games into Halloween favourites. "Have guests guess the number of candy corns in the jar, have a ball toss into carved pumpkins, or toss rings onto witches hats," Zaretsky said.

Decorate

Hit the local dollar store and fill the house with inexpensive Halloween decorations. Then make sure you have everything you need for your theme and your games — and be sure to have plenty of prizes as giveaways.

Creepy crawler recipe.
Spider brownie pizza

1. Line a rimmed 12-inch (31 cm) pizza pan with parchment paper and set aside.

2. Prepare the brownie mix according to package directions, spread brownie batter in the pan and bake for 15 to 18 minutes or until a tester inserted one-inch (2.5 cm) from the edge of pan comes out clean.

3. Cool brownies completely.

4. Next, spread the brownies with cream cheese frosting. Arrange 12 ScAERO Snack Size Bars on top, leaving about a three-inch (7.6 cm) space between each bar.

5. Add chocolate frosting to a small resealable bag; snip corner. Pipe frosting around each bar to resemble eight spider legs. Pipe two dots on each spider to resemble eyes.

COURTESY OF NESTLÉ

Ingredients

- 12 (7.3 g) Nestlé ScAERO Snack Size Bars
- 1/3 cup (75 mL) chocolate frosting or icing
- 1 package (450 g) brownie mix
- 1 cup cream cheese frosting
- 1/4 cup coloured decorating icing

This recipe makes 16 servings.
CONTRIBUTED

LIFE 3

PLUS HOMES

All about the accents

The Toronto's World MasterCard Fashion Week tents at David Pecaut Square have been hosting some of the best designers in Canada. From fringe to floral, embellishments ruled the show.

Pink Tartan

Seasoned designer Kimberley Newport-Mimran kicked things up a notch with her '70s-inspired Pink Tartan spring collection and music from bands like The Doors. Newport-Mimran said while her previous lines have been "quite pretty," she upped the ante to "a little bit sexy" with next spring's collection. "I was very inspired by looking back to the '70s but moving it forward to modern times," Newport-Mimran says. Newport-Mimran dressed models in body suits with fringe, gold and black accessories and brought the first pops of colour to the runway with a floral pattern featuring pinks, oranges and browns. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Target Canada

Under the Fashion Week tents, the focus of Target Canada was on styles for men, women and children for the chilly months. Canadian supermodel Coco Rocha sat front row for the splashy presentation, complete with a red-carpeted runway and illuminated bull's-eye logos. Cheery models showcased a vast array of cold weather wear with pretty, patterned cardigans, faux furs, quilted coats, bomber jackets and blazers. Styles for women encompassed the ultra-feminine — like sheer blouses, slinky lace camisoles and jumpsuits — alongside more edgy, embellished options like leather studded gloves. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bustle

Bustle brought a burst of bold colours to its spring-summer collection, which combined fashionable elements and style influences from rugged athletic apparel and Mykonos, a famed sun-soaked hot spot. Creative director Shawn Hewson said they dubbed the latest line for the label An American in Mykonos with the combination of classic, American rugby-inspired prints with seaside prints inspired by the Greek island. The collection was awash in pink, lilac, turquoise and a rich range of blues, with Bustle's slick signature suiting and shirts accented with colourful buttons and patterned trims. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sid Neigum

The Alberta-born, Toronto-based designer kicked off spring-summer 2015 collections at David Pecaut Square with a solo presentation of his intricately crafted collection inspired by modular origami. Neigum said he laser-cut the shapes out of fabric and then hand-weaved them all together. "Some of the pieces were 600 parallelograms hand-sewn together to create the geometric 3D geometry pattern. That was the starting point," he said. Neigum also made ample use of asymmetry in the hemlines of sleek skirts and belted dresses showcased within the line. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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Give chili a wildly delicious makeover

Cookbook of the Week

Get with the trend

North America's original red meat, bison has become a trendy ingredient. In Buffalo Girl Cooks Bison by Jennifer Bain, it is featured front and centre in more than 100 recipes. The first comprehensive contemporary bison cookbook for a general North American market, it also introduces to you prominent bison ranchers. Recipes include Quinoa and Kale Bison Soup, Braised Bison Short Ribs and more. **METRO**

Karen's 'Flying D' Bison Chili. While you're changing up the meat, why not replace the kidney beans as well?

"People are usually surprised to discover that American media mogul Ted Turner is also a bison rancher who co-owns a chain of restaurants called Ted's Montana Grill," writes Jennifer Bain in Buffalo Girl Cooks Bison.

"Bison plays a key role on the menu. This chili, created by Ted's personal chef, Karen Averitt, is one of the restaurant's signature dishes. Pinto beans are a welcome change from red kidney beans.

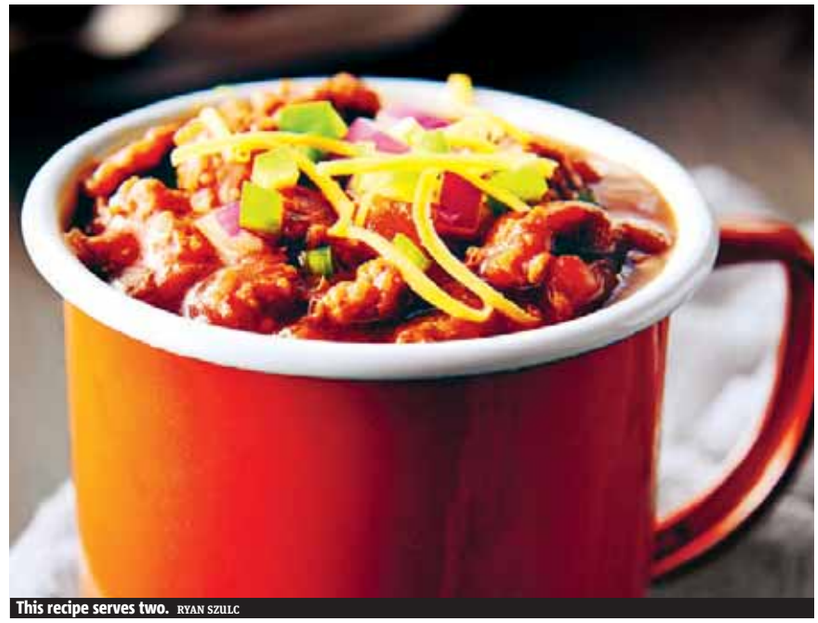
Flying D, by the way, is one of Ted's ranches in Montana."

Ingredients

- 1 lb ground bison
- 1/2 cup diced yellow onion
- 2 tsp minced garlic
- 1 1/2 cups warm water
- 6 tbsp tomato paste
- 1 tbsp liquid beef bouillon concentrate
- 1/2 tsp dried oregano leaves
- 4 tsp chili powder
- 1 1/4 tsp ground cumin
- 1 tsp granulated sugar
- Pinch cayenne pepper
- Pinch freshly ground black pepper
- 1/2 cup canned pinto beans, drained and rinsed
- 1/2 cup fresh diced tomatoes or canned diced tomatoes with liquid

Optional toppings

- Grated cheddar
- Finely diced red onions
- Chopped jalapenos



This recipe serves two. RYAN SZULC

1. In a large pot over medium-high heat, cook the bison, stirring with a wooden spoon to break up large pieces, for 5 minutes. Add the yellow onion and garlic. Cook, stirring, until soft, about 5 to 7 minutes.

2. In a measuring cup, combine the warm water, tomato paste, and beef bouillon concentrate. Whisk well. Add to the pot. Bring to a boil. Add the oregano, chili powder, cumin, sugar, cayenne pepper, and black pepper. Reduce the heat to medium-low. Simmer for 15 minutes. Add the beans and tomatoes. Simmer for 1 minute.

3. Serve chili topped, if desired, with cheese, red onions, and jalapenos.

RECIPE FROM BUFFALO GIRL COOKS BISON BY JENNIFER BAIN (TOUCHWOOD EDITIONS, 2014)

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SHUTTERSTOCK IMAGES

Local shops are what make a community

Yellow Pages campaign encourages people to shop at local businesses this holiday season

There are more than one million small businesses in Canada, and they employ close to half of the country's workforce. In today's global marketplace, with its myriad of online-shopping choices that are just a mouse click away, it's easy to forget about the positive impacts that our dollars have when we spend them at retailers in our own communities, whether it's at a store that makes handmade chocolates, natural skin-care products or microbrewed beer or at an independent bookstore.

Shop The Neighbourhood is a free initiative by Yellow Pages that aims to raise awareness of the important role that small businesses play in creating healthy, thriving neighbourhoods. Special events marking this campaign will take place on Saturday, Nov. 29, in Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal, Calgary, and Vancouver.

"Small businesses are the lifeblood of neighbourhoods across Canada. They give our communities their uniqueness and are often the reason we're drawn to specific areas," says François Ramsay, senior vice-president, corporate affairs at Yellow Pages.

It's important to note that Shop The Neighbourhood is more than just a single day of recognition for the economic treasures that our small businesses are. During the six weeks leading up to Nov. 29, an awareness campaign will promote the positive impacts of supporting small businesses and shopping locally. This will be capped off with a day in which residents are officially encouraged to make a local purchase at a participating business and take advantage of exclusive event-day deals.

Nov. 29 falls between Black Friday and Cyber Monday, two days when Canadians tend to cross the border to the United States or go online to take advantage of bargains and get a head start on holiday shopping.

Yellow Pages consciously chose to put Shop The Neighbourhood between those two days, to provide Canadians with local shopping choices with their own exclusive deals and savings offered by neighbourhood businesses.

YELLOW PAGES SUPPORTS SMALL BUSINESSES

The digital gap between consumers and Canada's businesses is widening: three-quarters of Canadians research purchases online, but less than half of small businesses in Canada have an online presence, according to a 2014 Canadian Internet Registration Authority (CIRA) report. What's more, a recent Statistics Canada study revealed that cross-border shopping by Canadians in the United States rose 72 per cent between 2006 and 2012, with Canadians spending $8 billion in the U.S. in 2012 alone.

Yellow Pages, a Canadian digital media and marketing solutions company, has a century-long legacy of working with small businesses in communities across Canada. Through its business operations, Yellow Pages strives to help businesses close that digital gap through its service offering. Now, with Shop The Neighbourhood, it's allowing participating businesses to experiment with online and mobile marketing by hosting a promotion for free on Yellow Pages digital properties.

HOW IT ALL BEGAN

Shop The Neighbourhood was originally piloted by Yellow Pages in downtown Oakville, Ont., in February 2013; from there it was expanded to the Greater Toronto Area in November of that same year.

Post-event research showed that more than 50 per cent of people in the GTA who had heard of the campaign purposely chose to make a local purchase that day, while more than 80 per cent said that it directly influenced their shopping habits. "Our Shop The Neighbourhood initiative is a reminder to all Canadians of how important it is to support local businesses as the impacts of that support extend to the hearts of our communities," says Ramsay. "On Nov. 29 this year, show your support for neighbourhood businesses by making a local purchase."

If all Canadians choose to buy locally — both during Shop The Neighbourhood and throughout the rest of the year — small businesses will be strengthened and, as a result, so will the neighbourhoods in which we live, work and play. To participate in Shop The Neighbourhood as a business or a shopper, visit shoptheneighbourhood.ca.

Deals are available on the following platforms: YP.ca, the Yellow Pages mobile app, the ShopWise mobile app, and on shoptheneighbourhood.ca. You can also show your support by joining the Shop The Neighbourhood Facebook page or Twitter account or by following the hashtag #shopthehood.

SMALL BUSINESS, BIG BENEFITS

According to Industry Canada, "approximately 100,000 small businesses are created in Canada each year. Small businesses also employ 40 per cent of Canada's private sector workforce."

Here are just three benefits that small businesses offer their communities:

1 **Keep dollars in the area.** Money spent within neighbourhoods directly benefits the local economy and tends to be reinvested within the community in the form of local employment or the contracting of locally based supplies and services.

2 **Keep decision-making power close to home.** Local ownership means that business operation and activities that may affect the community are made locally, by people aware of the impacts that those decisions have on the surrounding area.

3 **Promote close-knit neighbourhoods.** Local business owners and staff share the community's interests and are often personally invested in the welfare and future of the neighbourhood.

Buying local means supporting small, neighbourhood businesses that directly contribute to building healthy, thriving communities. Shop The Neighbourhood is a Yellow Pages initiative encouraging Canadians nationwide to make local purchases on November 29th.

Join the movement!

#shopthehood

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shoptheneighbourhood.ca

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The beauty of black in every room

Decorating. Rule No. 1: Define your space with the darkest of neutrals to create impact

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

There's an old rule in decorating: Every room needs a bold hit of black.

The darkness of black helps to rest the eye in rooms that are full of colour or pattern.

If overused, black can look cheap; if underused, it won't have impact.

If you want to paint a room with black, there are a few decorator rules to follow

1. Use it on one wall as a focal point only if there are a few heavy or dark furniture pieces to help balance the visual weight.

2. Paint an entire room black and create a dramatic background for a large collection of art, mirrors and draperies.

3. North-facing rooms should have red-based black colours and south-facing room should have blue-based black colours.

Want to accent your existing neutral space?

Here are some products that are sure to create trendsetting silhouettes around your home.

On the bench

Timeless bentwood beech creates curves in a classic black bench. SONNY Black Bench, $599, CrateAndBarrel.com.

Go for a decanter

Kosta Boda's Street Decanter mimics the gridlines of an urban road map. $375, TheBay.com.

Rhino for the books

Add the silhouette of exoticism to your mantle or bookcase. Rhino Bookend Set, $29, UrbanOutfitters.com.

So swish

Black is back in the kitchen. Whirlpool's Gold Top-Control Dishwasher in Black Ice finish, $700, Whirlpool.ca.

Whoo wants a drink?

Add some old-time libations to your bar. Owl's Brew Tea Cocktail Mix, $13, Homesense.ca.

Throw yourself into it

Cuddle up (black is slimming) at the game, in the car or by the fire. GURLI Synthetic Throw, $15, IKEA.com.

Eco-friendly. Philippe Starck's range of customizable houses are totally prefab

P.A.T.H. house by Starck with Riko. P.A.T.H./STARCK WITH RIKO

A swimming pool hidden under the decking? Check. Wind turbines on the roof? Check. It's all in a day's work for Philippe Starck, who unveiled the prototype for his new range of eco-friendly houses in Paris last week.

P.A.T.H. — which stands for Prefabricated Accessible Technological Homes — makes it possible for consumers to order customized, energy-positive, prefabricated houses at the click of a button.

Designed with Slovenian construction company Riko, the houses will produce more energy than they consume thanks to a combination of solar, thermal, solar photovoltaic and wind turbines on the roof.

Each house is available with an all-glass outer shell, a completely wooden structure or as a combination of both, with a huge choice in the material and colour of the facade.

Four models are available — two single-storey homes, one double-storey and a series of individual supplementary units — and clients can choose from 34 different floor layouts ranging from 140 to 350 square metres.

The houses have been designed to perform in any climate and can be ordered with stylish features such as patio decking concealing an infinity swimming pool.

Additional details include extendable steel awnings and integrated venetian blinds controlled via an iPad application.

Starck, who listed fellow Frenchman Jean Prouvé as one of his inspirations when approaching the prefab design, has been working on the project for six years.

AFP.

Available now

P.A.T.H. homes are commercially available as of this month via starckwithriko.com and through the P.A.T.H. Distribution network.

- **Once ordered, the houses will be delivered within six months.**
- **Prices range from approximately $3,443 to $6,197 per square metre.**

There are lots of quick, do-it-yourself projects for making Halloween lights that welcome partiers or trick-or-treaters. Besides their welcoming glow, luminaries can add sophistication or fun to a sidewalk, staircase, fireplace mantle or front stoop. And you can make them from a variety of everyday objects, from milk jugs to glass jars to paper bags. Just insert one or more battery-operated votives or a string of holiday lights into any of these DIY projects

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Flickering lights for fright night

JENNIFER FORKER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sticker treat

From the blog Making Lemonade: Wrap a glass vase in vellum or freezer paper, both of which are translucent; cut the paper to fit the vase. Add stickers to the unpatterned side of the vellum or the waxy side of the freezer paper, then rewrap and tape the paper — sticker side on the inside — to the vase with clear tape. (makinglemonadeblog.com/diy-halloween-decor-witch-luminaries)

CAMERON SADEGHPOUR/BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Want your mummy?

For a mummy look, wrap a glass jar with gauze bandages and glue on two googly eyes, or wrap black-paper facial features beneath vellum or masking tape for a similar look.

MARTY BALDWIN/BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gourds night out

Drill holes any size into a real or fabricated gourd or pumpkin. Use patterns or lines, or try monogramming your initial. For a pumpkin, cut an access hole at the bottom and clean it out from there. Eddie Ross, East Coast design editor for Better Homes and Gardens, recommends using a white or sugar pumpkin. The latter are used for baking; grocery stores sell them.

More illuminating ideas

Eddie Ross of Better Homes and Gardens has a slew of illuminating ideas at bhg.com and there are more at Pinterest.com and other websites.

Hosts for ghosts

From iSaveAtoZ blog: Rinse several gallon-size plastic milk jugs. Cut a small opening near the bottom of each jug for inserting individual strings of white holiday lights, or connect three or four jugs with one long string of lights. On a flat, clean side of each jug, draw a ghost face. (isavea2z.com/easy-halloween-craft-ideas-milk-jug-ghosts)

JENNIFER FORKER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Even more bright ideas

- Drizzle fake blood down the outside of a clear-glass cylinder, then wrap it with parchment paper and secure with double-stick tape. "It looks like something you see when you're putting slides under a microscope," says Ross. "It's sophisticated and pretty but creepy, too."
- Remove labels from empty steel cans and punch holes in them with an awl and hammer, either randomly or with a design.
- Decoupage the outside of any glass jar in orange tissue paper and add a pumpkin face using whatever is on hand — a permanent black marker, stickers or googly eyes.
- Using an orange paper bag (similar in size to paper lunch bags and available at most discount stores), cut out a pumpkin face from one side. Insert a smaller yellow or white paper bag with the votives inside.
- Take discount-store glow sticks to a party-supplies store and ask the clerk to insert them into yellow or white balloons before inflating the balloons with helium. Or buy a small helium tank; they range from $40 to $50 at party stores. Use a permanent black marker to draw spooky faces on the balloons. Stop there or go one step further and cover each balloon with cheesecloth. "It will make them glow," says Ross, who recommends lining a sidewalk or front porch with these.

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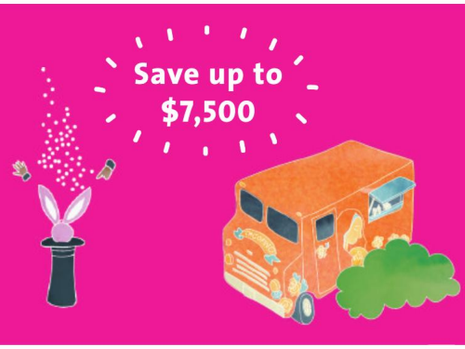

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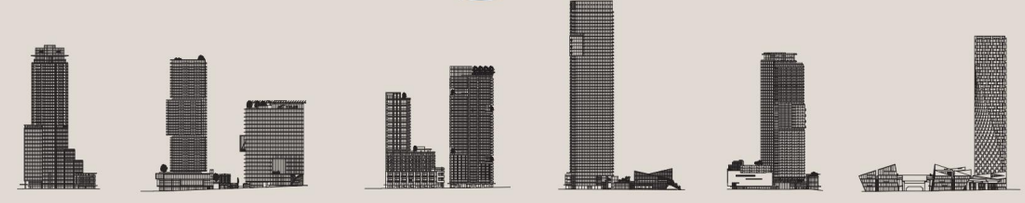

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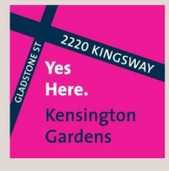

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Decor

Twenty shades of Downton lamps

U.S. home accessories store River of Goods has announced plans to launch the first official Downton Abbey Lighting collection next January. The collection will feature a series of 20 decorative floor and table lamps, wall sconces, accent lamps, pendants and chandeliers inspired by the English period drama.

Stained glass, crystal pendants and chandeliers, elaborate shades with tassels and fringe, and ornate bases are all featured heavily.

Downton Abbey Lighting by River of Goods will be unveiled in January 2015 to coincide with the Season 5 premiere of the show in the U.S. on Jan. 4 on PBS. Suggested retail prices will range from $35 to $400. AFP

Maggie Smith and Hugh Bonneville in Downton Abbey CARNIVAL FILMS/ITV1

Home technology. Dyson humidifer stops bugs from breeding in water basin

Launching in Japan, Dyson's newest product claims victory over the principal problem with humidifiers: they're bacteria breeding grounds.

Using the brand's Ultraviolet Cleanse technology, the Dyson Humidifier exposes the water in its basin to its ultraviolet light, killing 99.9 per cent of bacteria.

Dyson's new product not only provides clean humidity, it spreads it evenly throughout a room of up to 172 square feet (16 square metres) using the company's long range Air Multiplier technology.

Dyson Humidifier DYSON

It's even quiet, having earned a Quiet Mark award from the Noise Abatement Society. It doubles as a fan for year-round use and comes with a remote control.

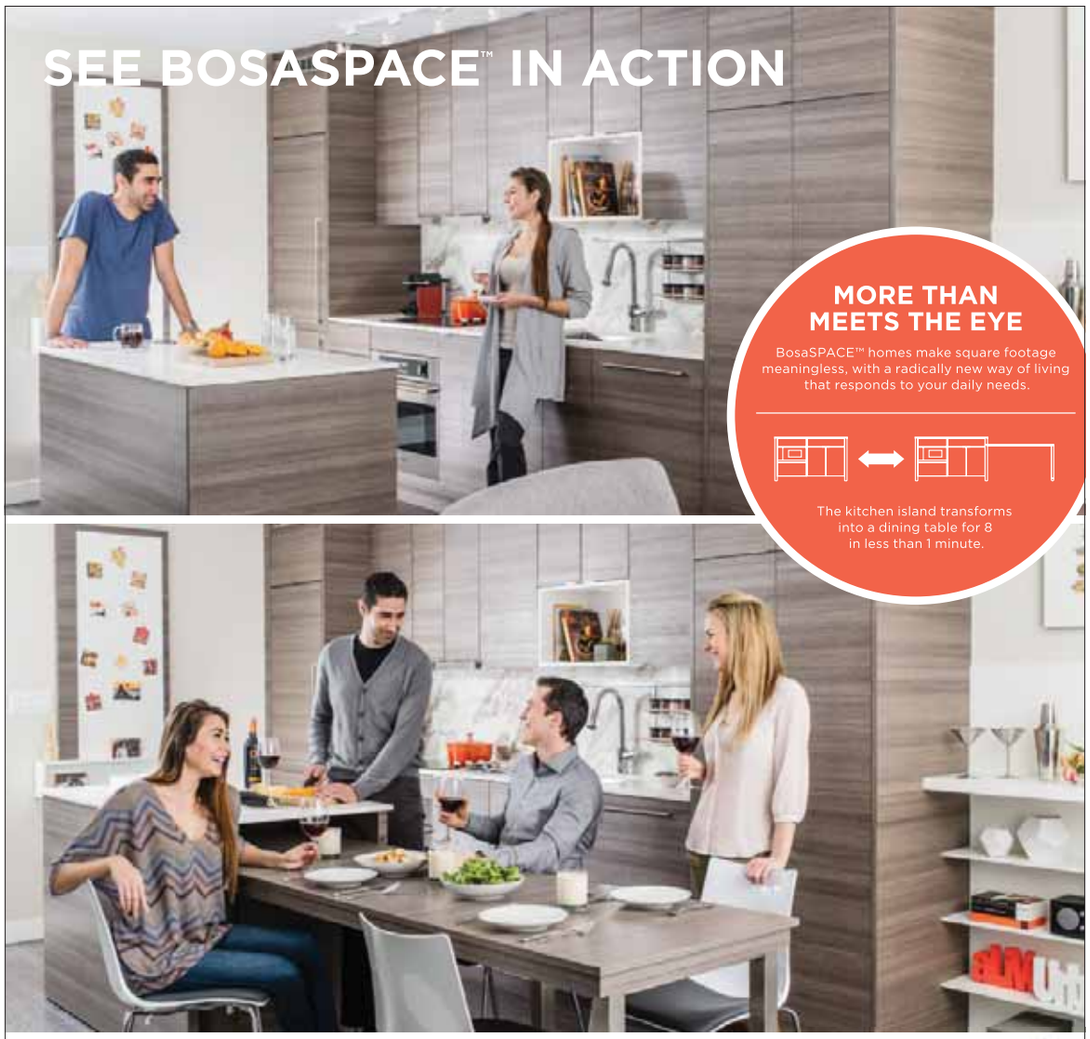
According to Engadget, the device is launching in Japan for 60,000 yen (approximately $560 US). Dyson indicates the product will be available online in fall 2015.

Coming soon to your area

To find out more and to be the first to know when the Dyson Humidifier launches in your area: dyson.com/fans-and-heaters/humidifiers.aspx

Want clean air now?

Those who can't wait for clean, hydro-balanced air may wish to look into the Plasmacluster Air Purifier with Humidifying Function from Sharp. $399.99 US. AFP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REPUBLIC OF FRITZ HANSEN

Limited Egg-dition classic

It is a 20th-century design classic, and now a limited edition of the famous Egg chair by Republic of Fritz Hansen has been released for fall.

A version of Arne Jacobsen's chair will be created in an indigo blue fabric by Scandinavian textile house Kvadrat, inspired by the classic blue colour tones featured in his design of the world-renowned Room 606 at the SAS Royal Hotel in Copenhagen.

The limited-edition piece features 1,200 hand-sewn stitches and dark brown leather piping to emphasize the organic lines of the chair's form. A burnished base completes the look.

Jacobsen created the softly contoured Egg chair in 1958 for the lobby and reception areas of the Royal Hotel, Copenhagen, and the piece has gone on to become one of the most recognizable icons of modern furniture design. AFP

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Take a leaf out of autumn's book: Shake up your outdoor decor

Homes in northern climes are treated to a measure of effortless outdoor decorating for fall: Nature does most of the work by turning trees a vivid palette of reds, oranges and golds. Add a pumpkin or two on the doorstep and the look is complete. But sometimes it takes a bit more creativity to incorporate the season's colours and textures. Designers offer advice on doing outdoor fall decorating right

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hanging out the sheaves

If you've been hanging up the same fall wreath on your front door for several years now, Southern California designer Betsy Burnham suggests a fresh approach.

"It doesn't have to be a wreath," she says. "It can be wheat sheaths. It can be pussy willows. Just something that seems autumnal."

Brian Patrick Flynn of the Flynnside Out design blog agrees: "I usually stay away from corn husks as door decor," he says, "and I also skip things that have been done a million times, like scarecrows. Instead, I like to simply play with yellow- and orange-toned plants, and a variety of pumpkins."

Lee Kleinhelter, owner of the Pieces design store in Atlanta, suggests using "rustic elements to complement this time of year," such as birch logs, twigs and vines. They can be left in their natural colours or painted white or a soft gold.

She also likes decorating with "the fiery fall foliage of gingko and sugar maple trees," which can be potted and clustered together in simple arrangements around a front door or in an outdoor entertaining area.

An arrangement of autumnal grasses graces a front door. ISTOCK

Keep the home fires burning outside, too

"If you've got space, an outdoor fireplace will allow you to host guests and also take in the amazing foliage," says Flynn. "I have an outdoor fireplace in my own mountain house, and I deck it out in fall tones each year and just escape outside all day long." Outdoor cushions in summery colours can be replaced with warmer, autumnal shades. And Burnham suggests using clusters of scented candles outside in cinnamon, clove or other seasonal fragrances. RUSTIC WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY/BRIAN PATRICK FLYNN/HAYNEEDLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Add white pumpkins to table settings. ISTOCK

Wrap vines in lights

Use what you have

"I don't think you need to go buy a new 'themed' look for a season," Kleinhelter says. "Take something you already have and rethink it, like the natural elements in your yard, and come up with a creative yet simple way to use them."

White lights you bought for Christmas decorating can be just the thing to make fall outdoor decorating look special. "We have jumbo vine balls we are going to wrap in lights and scatter in the yard," Kleinhelter says, in "a 'pop art' kind of way."

Burnham agrees: "You can never go wrong with white lights," she says. "You can do a lot with just framing your door with really beautiful white lights," perhaps woven through twigs or vines.

The look is glamorous, and also practical: If you've lined your front door with white lights woven through twigs in the fall, simply add some pine or holly branches to the mix when it's time to decorate in December.

White is the new orange. Set seasonal tone with pale pumpkins and gourds

All three designers are fans of white gourds and white pumpkins. "We use them every year one way or another," Kleinhelter says. "Grouping them on table settings or outside in multiples by the door is an easy arrangement."

You can decorate with gourds and pumpkins without adding "that crazy pumpkin orange" to your home's exterior, Burnham says. Instead, pick other shades of orange and yellow that feel seasonal but aren't quite so bright.

Orange and yellow are the two colours most associated with fall style," Flynn says. But "to get these tones right, you've got to stick with those that have just the right amount of brown in them. Otherwise the intended look will end up being somewhat childish or even summery. Stick with mustard tones rather than canary yellow, and as far as orange goes, it's best to use burnt pumpkin tones rather than red oranges or yellow oranges."

You can also mix in neutral shades of tan and soft brown. "And I always like to throw my own spin on it all," Flynn says, "by incorporating black."

ISTOCK

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SPORTS 4

Laba a fit with the Caps beyond 2014

MLS. Scrappy midfielder takes home team's unsung hero award

CAM TUCKER
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When Carl Robinson took over the head coaching job with the Vancouver Whitecaps, he set out to improve the midfield.

On Wednesday, midfielders Matias Laba and Pedro Morales, both designated players who joined the club just before the start of the 2014 season, stood on stage, team awards in their hands.

It's recognition for their efforts and accomplishments this season, but also a sign that Robinson was successful in one of his objectives.

The team is one win short of its goal of making the MLS Cup playoffs.

A win over the Colorado Rapids on Saturday at BC Place Stadium would secure the Whitecaps a post-season spot in the Western Conference.

Laba won the team's unsung hero award, while Morales, with his club-leading 10 goals in MLS competition, took home the Domenic Mobilio Golden Boot and player of the year honours.

The latter award was a no-brainer.

Laba's statistics aren't as esthetically pleasing. No goals. One assist.

He's brought an aggressive attitude to the midfield, leading the league with 148 tackles with one game to play. Paired alongside Gershon Koffie and then Canadian Russell Teibert, Laba has fit in almost seamlessly since the beginning.

The Whitecaps acquired Laba, who counts as a young designated player for this season because he is under the age of 23, in a trade with Toronto FC on Feb. 26.

Laba was expendable in Toronto. Robinson wanted him in Vancouver.

Matias Laba leaps into the arms of a Whitecaps teammate in celebration of a 1-0 win over the Sounders on Oct. 10 in Seattle. Laba celebrated winning the team's unsung hero award Wednesday. ELAINE THOMPSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"(Laba) will be here as long as I'm here."

Whitecaps head coach Carl Robinson

"I was patient. As soon as (Laba's) name became available, there was no other person I wanted," said Robinson.

Laba will make $300,000 for this season, according to the MLS Players Union. Only two-thirds of his season salary counts toward the Whitecaps salary budget, according to league rules.

He's turns 23 years old in December, so there is still potential to be tapped into.

"It's a lad that wants to learn," said Robinson.

Robinson said Laba "has option years" on his current contract. The first-year manager wants Laba back next season.

"(Laba) will be here as long as I'm here," said Robinson.

CFL

Jackson seizing his opportunity with the Lions

It's often said in professional sports that an injury to one player provides an opportunity for another.

Ernest Jackson, in his last two games for the B.C. Lions, has racked up 289 yards receiving. That includes 195 receiving yards on eight catches and a touchdown in a Week 16 win over the Ottawa RedBlacks. Seizing that opportunity may be an understatement.

Prior to Oct. 4, Jackson, in his third season with the Leos, hadn't caught a pass in CFL game action since late August.

Injuries have ravaged the Lions throughout the season. Running backs Andrew Harris and Stefan Logan, receivers Courtney Taylor and Bryan Burnham and Emmanuel Arceneaux have all proven to be key players in B.C.'s offence and all have spent time out of the lineup.

Jackson, an international player, has made some big plays in the past, highlight-reel catches, but has recently been on the short end of the ratio numbers.

His recent performances, however, make it almost impossible to take him out of the lineup.

"If you play good enough and you win, yeah," said head coach Mike Benevides earlier in the week.

"But it's always about competing and making sure the roster has the best players on there. He's had opportunities before and due to some situations we had to go through … but now he's really grabbed a hold of that." CAM TUCKER/METRO

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The Kansas City empire strikes back

All even. Royals beat Giants 7-2 to tie the World Series 1-1

Kelvin Herrera during Game 2 of the 2014 World Series Wednesday in Kansas City, Mo. ELSA/GETTY IMAGES

Billy Butler hit a tiebreaking single, Salvador Perez and Omar Infante drove in two runs each with big hits in a five-run sixth inning, and the Kansas City Royals beat the San Francisco Giants 7-2 Wednesday night to even the World Series at one game apiece.

A night after the Giants opened with a 7-1 victory for their seventh straight Series win, Gregor Blanco led off the game with a home run against hard-throwing rookie Yordano Ventura. Brandon Belt tied the score 2-all with an RBI double in the fourth.

Butler's single off Jean Machi drove in his second run of the night and put the Royals ahead 3-2. Perez lined a two-run double to the left-centre wall for a three-run lead, and Infante homered into the left-field bullpen off Hunter Strickland.

Alcides Escobar's RBI double in the bottom of the first off Jake Peavy and Butler's run-scoring single in the second put the Royals ahead 2-1 for their first lead of the series.

After Infante's homer, Strickland started screaming and got into a confrontation with Perez as he crossed the plate. The dugouts emptied, but no punches were thrown and Hunter was replaced by Jeremy Affeldt.

Ventura allowed two runs and eight hits in 5-1/3 innings and didn't get a decision for the third straight start in the post-season. Kelvin Herrera, one of Kansas City's 100-mph-throwing relievers, escaped a two-on, one-out jam in the sixth and was in line for the win.

Peavy settled down after Escobar's hit, retiring 10 in a row on 28 pitches before Lorenzo Cain's soft single to centre leading off the sixth. He walked Eric Hosmer, and Machi came in and left a fastball up to Butler, who lined it into left for the go-ahead run.

San Francisco tied a World Series record by using five pitchers in the sixth.

Game 3 is Friday night in San Francisco.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CR7 villainous on Merseyside

Cristiano Ronaldo strikes a pose after scoring the opening goal in Real Madrid's 3-1 Champions League Group B win on Wednesday evening at Anfield in Liverpool. Ronaldo now has 70 goals in Europe's top club competition, just one behind Raul Gonzalez' all-time record. Scan the image with your Metro News app for a wrap-up of the rest of the day's action in Europe.

PIERRE-PHILIPPE MARCOU/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Soccer

Montreal tied but needed win

The Montreal Impact will have to wait and see if they will host a CONCACAF playoff game next February after tying the New York Red Bulls 1-1 on Wednesday night in Champions League play.

The Impact needed a win to move from sixth to a top four CONCACAF playoff seeding. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ESL. Arrest a language mistake: Lawyer

Slava Voynov's attorney says the Los Angeles Kings defenceman never hit his girlfriend, and blames Voynov's arrest on a misunderstanding caused partly by the couple's limited ability to speak English.

Craig Renetzky is hopeful the NHL will end Voynov's indefinite suspension after reviewing the events that led to Voynov's arrest on suspicion of domestic violence at a hospital near his home. Voynov hasn't been charged.

Renetzky interviewed Voynov and his girlfriend extensively with help from a Russian interpreter. Without providing specific details, Renetzky said Voynov's girlfriend's injury resulted from "an accident."

"Slava never hit her," Renetzky said. "She was injured, but it's not a result of Slava punching her or anything remotely like that."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canucks offence costs its defence

THE HOCKEY NEWS
Matt Larkin
vancouver@metronews.ca

No goal is a goalie's goal

.881

Vancouver's save percentage through five games, which ranks them 27th in the NHL.

Splitting the Canucks' first five games into two not-quite-even halves, their young season feels like a Tale of Two Teams. Which version is the real one?

Is it the high-flying squad that breezed through its first three contests, beating Calgary and Edmonton (twice), largely on the strength of vintage play by Henrik and Daniel Sedin? Or is it the group that couldn't contain Steven Stamkos at home on Saturday and crumpled like a paper cup in a trip to Dallas Tuesday night?

At the very least, the 2014-15 Canucks should be entertaining. Even in defeat, this team is generating a lot more chances than it did last season under John Tortorella. The Canucks averaged 36 shots in their first five games, buoyed in part by Tuesday's 46-shot effort. It appears Willie Desjardins will let this team skate and take chances.

But at what cost? The full-throttle approach has led to breakdowns at the other end of the rink, as we saw during Vancouver's first loss when Stamkos caught the defence pinching before beating Eddie Lack on a breakaway. The Canucks have also taken 25 minor penalties, good for five a game after averaging 3.79 minors last season. Zack Kassian and Alexandre Burrows are playing on the wrong side of the edge.

Ryan Miller's implosion Tuesday, in which he allowed five goals on 12 shots, was a circus, but it wasn't entirely his fault. On one, he became entangled with Chris Tanev. Burrows blew backchecks on two of the goals. And Miller's own-goal can only be described as a fluke.

Interestingly, these Canucks look, well, immature under an immature (in terms of NHL experience) new coach, running around, especially in defensive zone coverage, like headless chickens. That's fine for a team that wants to takes its lumps during a rebuild, but it's reason to panic for this team, which intends to compete for a playoff spot. Sloppy play simply won't cut it in the hyper-competitive Western Conference. The Stars look great but are probably the fourth best-team in their own division, let alone conference. They were Vancouver's most important litmus test so far, and the Canucks failed miserably.

It's reason for concern going forward. Wins against Calgary and Edmonton were to be expected, but Vancouver must stop looking so overmatched against the big dogs if it wants to be taken seriously as a playoff contender.

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AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
The planets warn that someone you meet on your travels today is trying to hide something from you, something you need to be aware of. Dig deeper than usual and find out what they're up to.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
As both the Sun and Venus, your ruler, move into the partnership area of your chart today it will pay you to be more open about your feelings.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
What you need to remember today is that every cause has an effect. The planets indicate that something is about to happen that is directly linked to what you said or did in the past.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
No matter how difficult the past few weeks have been what comes next will restore your faith in yourself, if not yet the whole of humanity. Today's solar eclipse will delight you.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You need to be alert and willing to take a risk if you are to benefit from the changes taking place around you. You will also need to be less thin-skinned.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Although your money situation may still be difficult, you will be less inclined to worry now that the Sun is moving out of the financial area of your chart..

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Your mind is full of big ideas but are you able to turn them into a new reality? The planets urge you to make an extra special effort — from which you can expect an extra special reward.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
The Sun enters your birth sign today and there is a powerful eclipse in your sign, so omens are excellent. There's no limits to what you can accomplish over the next month.

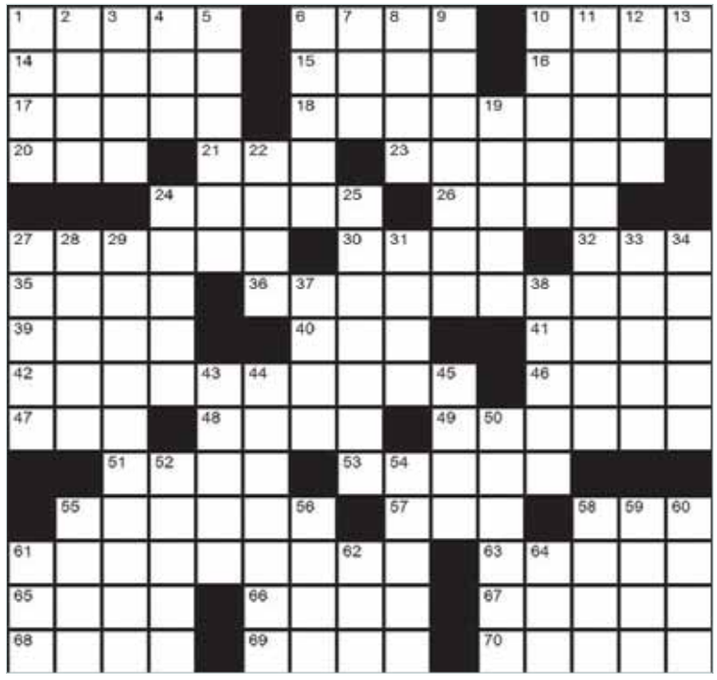
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may want the good times to last forever but you need to get serious and, among other things, turn your attention inward, to what makes you tick.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The Sun in Scorpio over the next few weeks will present you with numerous opportunities to showcase your creativity.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
A great opportunity will arrive at just the right time, in just the right place and in just the right way over the next few days, so make sure you are ready for it.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You may not have enjoyed the past few weeks as much as some people but you have to admit you learned some valuable lessons. Now you will get the chance to apply what you have learned.

Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



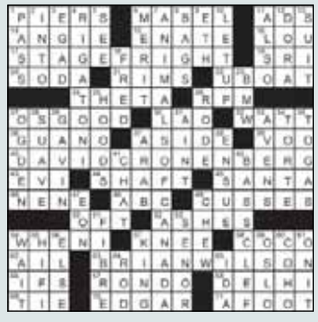
Across

1. Speedy, fast-__
6. Car's beeper
10. Fleece
14. Natural pigment
15. Classical song type
16. __ paper (School assignment)
17. Luba's "__ Before the Calm"
18. Le Chateau __ (Quebec City landmark)
20. Li'l tea party accessory
21. Choose
23. Follower of The Way
24. As such, Latin-style: 2 wds.
26. "Pay __ __ mind."
27. Acquiesce
30. Actress Ms. Rogers
32. Mil. force
35. Golfing norms
36. News story told through pictures: 2 wds.
39. William Wallace, for example
40. River of Hiroshima
41. "__, __ quiet ...pleeeze!"
42. Comfy seats: 2 wds.
46. Lively tune
47. Therefores
48. French writer Victor
49. Ties the knot in secret
51. Damp day reason
53. Brother on "Frasier"
55. Titles like Dracula's
57. Canadian cinematic org.
58. Pepe Le Who?
61. The Guess Who founding member/original lead singer: 2 wds.
63. __ for the Top (Quiz program for Canadian students)
65. "Well, ___ known that..."
66. Detective novelist, __ Stanley Gardner
67. Garden products brand
68. Dog, with Lhasa
69. Flanders river
70. Aeries

Down

1. Mail: Canada __
2. Does dialogue
3. Cut
4. Be in the wrong
5. Showcased the product
6. Weapon handles
7. The Cars singer Benjamin
8. Uprising
9. Vancouver Island city
10. Beer mug
11. Fighting __ (Part of the mission of nonpartisan writers organization PEN Canada)
12. "How now, _ __?" - Hamlet
13. Ancient's 2100
19. Comedian Ms. Fields
22. Casually trendy student, nicknamed
24. Irritating
25. Bee Gees penned tune Destiny's Child covered
27. Vaulted church parts
28. Chocolate source
29. __ Christian Communications (Burlington, Ontario based producer of the daily talk show at #44-Down)
31. __-TASS (Russian news agency)
33. Knitting: __ stitch
34. Tsar's turndowns
37. Author, Tami __
38. Arias
43. Beijing's locale
44. As per #29-Down... "100 __ Street", since 1977
45. __-belief (Confidence)
50. Basketball star Mr. James
52. Sound
54. __ tube (Lake fun thing)
55. Bloke
56. Certain cameras, curtly
58. Butter portions
59. Real
60. "Look __ Talking" (1989)
61. Steeped beverage
62. Ginger __
64. Afore

Yesterday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

9	6					4		2
1			5			3		
		3	6					
				7				8
3		7	2		9	6		5
5				8				
					7	8		
		4			2			1
2		8					9	6

Yesterday's Sudoku

3	4	7	8	5	9	1	6	2
5	1	9	2	6	7	8	3	4
6	2	8	1	4	3	9	5	7
1	8	2	6	9	4	3	7	5
7	9	5	3	1	2	4	6	6
4	3	6	7	8	5	2	1	9
2	7	4	5	3	1	6	9	8
8	5	3	9	2	6	7	4	1
9	6	1	4	7	8	5	2	3

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